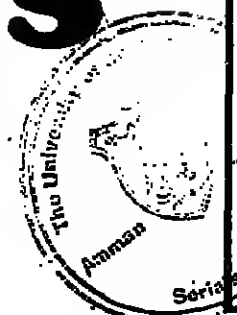


Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية "الراي"



France agrees to buy Iraqi oil

PARIS (R) — France has agreed to increase its oil purchases from Iraq and to take other measures to help the financially hard-pressed country purchase arms for its war with Iran, Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz said Friday. France is Iraq's largest arms supplier. Mr. Aziz confirmed the French commitments at a press conference and in an interview hours before he was due to meet an Egyptian minister in Paris for the first public high-level contact between the two countries since 1979. Diplomats said Mr. Aziz's statements indicated that France had decided to step up its support for Iraq, whose oil revenues have been cut by more than two thirds since the outbreak of war with Iran in September 1980.

18 Israelis injured in ambush

TEL AVIV (R) — Eighteen Israeli soldiers were wounded when their bus was ambushed south of Beirut Friday, the army said. A spokesman said the bus came under light arms and bazooka fire near the village of Sil, three kilometres south of the Lebanese capital. Most of the 18 had light injuries. Israeli soldiers pursued the attackers and killed one of them, the spokesman said. It was one of the worst attacks on Israeli forces since the Palestinian commando evacuation from Beirut in August. Since Dec. 1, the army has reported nine Israelis killed and 15 wounded by mines and other attacks.

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Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

King approves 1983 budget

AMMAN (Petra) — A royal decree was issued on Thursday approving the state general budget for the 1983 fiscal year.

Wazir leaves for Kuwait

AMMAN (J.T.) — Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the Palestinian Forces, Khalil Al Wazir left Amman Thursday evening for Kuwait to participate in the emergency meeting of the Fatah leadership currently held in Kuwait. Mr. Wazir, known as Abu Jihad, had arrived Wednesday evening in Amman, where he had consultations with Jordanian officials on the latest developments concerning the Palestinian question.

Warsaw Pact defence ministers to meet in Prague

MOSCOW (R) — Defence Ministers of Warsaw Pact countries will meet in Prague in the next few days, TASS news agency reported Friday. The meeting in the Czechoslovak capital would be in the first half of January, TASS said. No exact date was given for the session which appeared to be a follow-up to a summit of the seven-nation Soviet bloc alliance held in Prague earlier this week.

Weinberger agrees to trim 1983 military budget

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. Defence Secretary Casper Weinberger has bowed to pleas from other senior Reagan aides and agreed to trim his planned military budget for next year, Pentagon officials said Friday. The Reagan administration is going into the final weeks of writing a federal budget for the financial year starting next Oct. 1 faced with growing opposition to plans for sharply increased arms spending because of a soaring national deficit. Mr. Weinberger, who told a press conference only a week ago that deeper cuts in defence spending would pose a "risk to our national security", agreed at a White House meeting Thursday to look for possible budget cuts, officials said. They said senior White House aides at the meeting, who included Budget Director David Stockman, argued that arms cuts which do not jeopardise national security were essential to trim a 1984 deficit expected to be near \$200 billion.

'Need for loans may solve Portugal's crisis'

LISBON (R) — Portugal's pressing need for new foreign loans appears likely to hasten a solution of a three-week-old government crisis and give the ruling right-wing alliance another spell in power, political sources said Friday. The sources quoted President Antonio Ramalho Eanes as saying it was imperative that Portugal should have a stable government in a position to start negotiations with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) later this year. He had told the three right-wing parties it was essential that government economic policy should be clear by that time and for this reason the president was not in favour of calling early general elections, the sources said.

TASS: Soviet satellite's nuclear power pack burnt

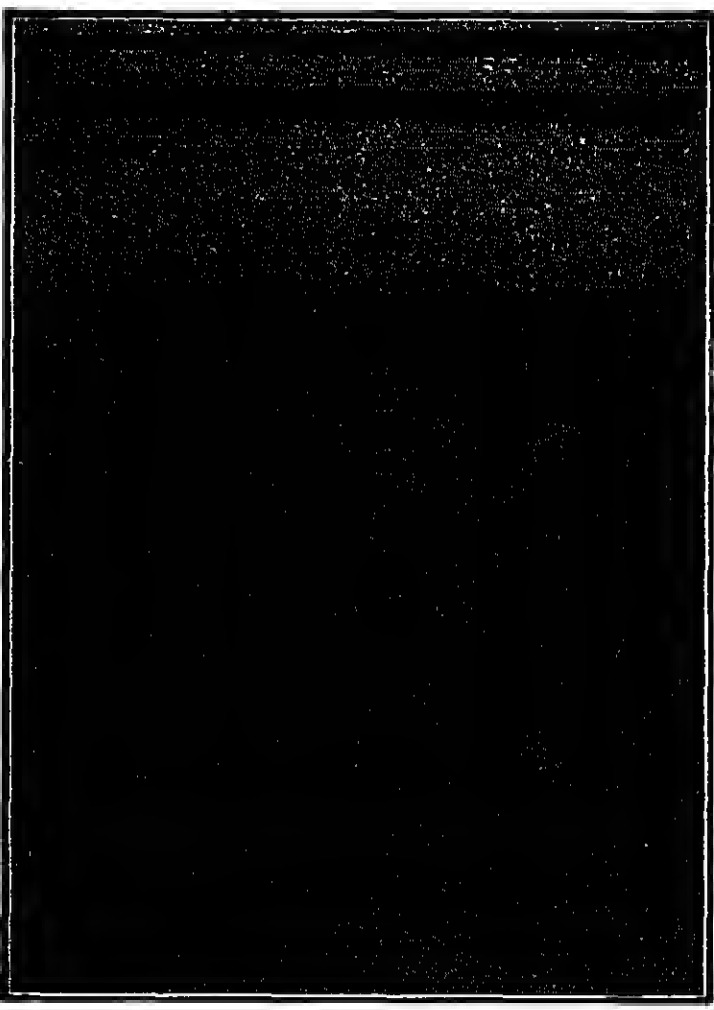
MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet news agency TASS said Friday that a nuclear-powered satellite believed by U.S. experts to be out of control had broken up on Dec. 28. A brief report said the satellite, Cosmos 1402, had been divided into separate parts under orders from earth and that the nuclear power pack had burnt up on re-entry into the atmosphere. TASS quoted "competent Soviet organisations" as saying the satellite had ceased active existence on Dec. 28.

No let-up in Tripoli fighting

BEIRUT (R) — Sporadic shelling and bursts of machinegun fire were reported Friday from the embattled port city of Tripoli on the eighth successive day of clashes between pro- and anti-Syrian factions.

State-run Beirut Radio said the level of fighting in which at least 100 people have died in the past month rose in the afternoon after a morning of relative calm, further denting hopes of a ceasefire. Factions opposed to Syrian control of the city also rejected a peace plan saying it could lead to partition. Official sources said Prime Minister Shafiq Al Wazzan was planning to visit Damascus for talks on stemming the violence but they said no date had been set. Such a visit would be the first by a senior Lebanese official to Damascus since President Amin Gemayel took office last September. Syrian troops have been in overall control of the sprawling northern city since they intervened in 1976 to end the civil war there. Beirut Radio said three people died Thursday in the fighting in which pro-Syrian militias backed by Syrian troops are pitted against an array of anti-Syrian armed groups. Local newspapers put the death toll at between six and 20. Previous efforts to end the fighting have centred on Tripoli's leading politician, former Prime Minister Rashid Karami, who heads a committee of the warring factions. But some of the biggest anti-Syrian groups have boycotted his committee, insisting on total Syrian withdrawal from the city. In a communique the boycotting factions rejected Mr. Karami's latest peace plan under

which joint patrols of the different factions would police troubled parts of the city while Lebanese gendarmes would control other districts. The communique said his plan was "a step backward" and could cause the battle-scarred city to be partitioned. The only solution would be to send in Lebanese security forces to control the city, it said. Several senior Syrian officials have visited Tripoli in the past month but their peace efforts have failed to secure a lasting ceasefire. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) said in Geneva that an estimated 25,000 civilians had fled the fighting. Most fighting is in the shabby old quarters of the city which are all but deserted except for armed militiamen. Other districts are relatively unscathed by the latest round of clashes. Tripoli, which has virtually no communications with the rest of Lebanon, is also reported running short of food and medical supplies. Story and photo on page 8



Leftist militiamen of the "24th of October Movement" man a sandbagged position near their headquarters in Tripoli Thursday. (A.P. wirephoto)

Arafat urges Arab World to counter U.S.' pro-Israeli bias

DAMASCUS (R) — Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), arrived in Syria Friday after urging the Arab World to answer what he called a U.S. bias in favour of Israel with pressure similar to that exerted against Britain. British Foreign Secretary Francis Pym was forced to call off a fence-mending Arab tour on Wednesday after Saudi Arabia, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates made clear he would not be welcome because of Britain's refusal to receive an Arab League mission which included a PLO representative. Asked in an interview with the Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) whether similar measures should be applied against the United States, Mr. Arafat said: "The Arab Nation should

declare its anger and roar. The U.S. has more interests in the region than the other way round... we cannot declare war on the United States yet we can put pressures." "I... demand that we stop dealing with American firms," Mr. Arafat said. The Americans must know that their interests were threatened by their "Israeli bias", he added. The Arab League mission, formed last September to outline an Arab peace plan for the Middle East to the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council, has visited Moscow, Paris, Peking and Washington. A PLO official was not received at the White House. Britain's attitude towards the mission, which cancelled a planned visit to London last

Moscow urges West to consider proposed treaty

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet leaders appealed to the West Friday to give careful consideration to the idea of an East-West non-aggression treaty proposed at a summit conference of the Communist Warsaw Pact earlier this week. An announcement issued by the state and party leadership through the official news agency TASS said Moscow regarded this proposal as the most important outcome of the two-day meeting in Prague. "It is important that the states to which this major peace initiative is addressed in the first place should approach it with every attention," the statement said. The Warsaw Pact leaders suggested that the Western NATO alliance and the Soviet bloc should sign a treaty renouncing the use of force against each other. The proposal, which echoed a similar idea put forward by the Kremlin in 1958, has been dismissed by many Western officials as meaningless. Friday's Soviet statement said a non-aggression treaty would pave the way towards raising trust between East and West and reducing stockpiles of nuclear weapons. "It depends on the U.S.A. and its NATO allies whether the opportunity to prevent the build-up of nuclear missiles in Europe will be used," the Kremlin leaders declared. TASS said the Communist Party politburo, the council of ministers and the Praesidium of the Soviet Union had all examined the results of the Prague meeting and issued the joint statement as a result.

W. German president dissolves parliament

BONN (R) — President Karl Carstens Friday bowed to the wishes of West Germany's four political parties by dissolving parliament and calling a general election for March 6. The announcement, which was widely expected, came three weeks after Chancellor Helmut Kohl deliberately lost a vote of confidence in the West German Bundestag (lower house). Apart from resigning—a move he regarded as politically unacceptable—this was the only way Mr. Kohl could keep his promise to hold new elections after being manoeuvred into power by the Liberal Free Democrats (FDP) on Oct. 1. The Liberals brought about the change in government by abandoning the coalition of Social-Democratic (SPD) Chancellor Helmut Schmidt and joining the conservative alliance of Mr. Kohl's Christian Democrats (CDU) and their Bavarian sister party, the Christian Social Union (CSU). After receiving President Carstens' decision, Bundestag speaker Richard Stuecklen said the current parliament would remain fully functional and could sit at any time in the two months prior to the election. However, he said it did not propose to call any sittings, except for emergencies and on special occasions such as Jan. 20, when visiting French President Francois Mitterrand is due to address parliament on the 20th anniversary of the Franco-German friendship treaty. Public opinion polls during the past few weeks have almost unanimously forecast a conservative victory at the polls. The CDU/CSU alliance has

Danish captain denies fishing illegally

NORTH SHIELDS, England (R) — A Danish trawler captain testing the legality of new British restrictions Friday denied in court that he had fished illegally within 12 miles of Britain's coast. Kent Kirk, a 34-year-old member of the European parliament who is leading Danish fishermen in a dispute over European Community fishing rights, denied the charge at the start of a

hearing at the northeastern seaport of North Shields. His trawler, the Sand Kirk, was escorted into the port Thursday by a British navy fishery protection ship after Capt. Kirk cast his nets inside the 12-mile coastal sector banned to Danish fishermen. The Sand Kirk was one of dozens of Danish fishing boats that have sailed for British waters in recent days, although no other

Switzerland expels 2 Soviet diplomats

BERNE (R) — Switzerland said Friday it had expelled two Soviet diplomats based in Geneva for spying, adding to a long series of espionage scares. The Justice Ministry said in a statement the two unnamed officials, one from the Soviet mission to the United Nations and the other from the consulate-general in Geneva, were told to

leave towards the end of last month. They had been gathering information about papers required for settling or getting married in Switzerland, the statement said. The ministry did not say what the significance of such data was but Swiss media speculated it could have been useful to Soviet intelligence services in setting up illegal agents in neutral Switzerland. Police were alerted to the diplomats' activities in the regions of Berne and Solothurn to the north of the capital and the Swiss Foreign Ministry protested to the Soviet embassy in Berne. The government says it has uncovered 240 spying cases since 1948.

Corsican guerrillas answer Paris crackdown with bomb attack

AJACCIO, CORSICA (R) — Fresh tension gripped Corsica Friday after separatist guerrillas replied to a French government crackdown on political violence on the Mediterranean island with a bomb attack in central Ajaccio. The raid, blamed on the outlawed Corsican National Liberation Front (FLNC), caused concern among residents of a confrontation between the separatists and newly strengthened security forces, informed sources said. The bombing Thursday night badly damaged a driving school which had been the target of several previous attacks. Other buildings in the area were also damaged. The government this week banned the FLNC and ordered a shake-up of the Corsican police as

a result of steadily increasing violence by the guerrillas in a campaign to win the island's independence from France. Police Commissioner Robert Broussard, former head of the anti-gang brigade in Paris, is due to arrive in Corsica shortly with a team of senior officers to take charge of security. "Corsicans are still waiting to see how the FLNC intends to react," political sources said. "Last night's bombing could be a face-saving act of defiance to the government. It could also be a signal that the violence will go on." They said many islanders, although encouraged by the hard line which authorities adopted towards the guerrillas, were worried it could lead to bloodshed if

Jordanians, Palestinians praise Hussein's stand

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordanian workers and a number of Jordanian and Palestinian personalities declared their support of His Majesty King Hussein's wise leadership and pan-Arab stands. In a cable sent by the central council of Jordanian Trade Unions General Federation (JTUGF), the workers expressed their confidence and pride in his sincere efforts to regain the usurped rights in Palestine and to reaffirm the right of the Palestinian people to return home and to exercise the right of self-determination on their national soil. The workers also expressed their support of the King's unionist steps with the leaders of Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) "which are a manifestation of the aspirations of our one Arab people in unity and freedom." In a separate cable to the King, on his return home at the end of his five-week tour of several countries to advance the Arab cause, a number of Jordanian and Palestinian personalities also praised the King's sincere endeavours and his honourable stands towards the Palestinian issue and people and condemned the subversive attempts by certain people to frustrate the achievement of the pan-Arab goals. They also condemned all attempts aimed at dividing Palestinian ranks, and Jordanian and Palestinian people, emphasising their rejection of all attempts to cast doubt on the soundness of the Palestinian position and to interfere in their internal affairs.

Jordan gets \$100,000 grant from UNESCO

PARIS (R) — UNESCO has granted Jordan \$100,000 following a decision to include the old city of Jerusalem on its list of world heritage sites, officials of the world organisation said Friday. Jerusalem, which has been occupied by Israel since 1967, was nominated by Jordan as a world heritage site and approved last month by a committee vote at UNESCO, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation. Commenting on the grant, an Israeli UNESCO delegation official said Friday it implied UNESCO recognition that Jerusalem was Jordanian. "This is purely an Israeli interpretation", a UNESCO official replied, adding that UNESCO would not respond to the charge. Fourteen delegations voted in favour, five abstained and the United States voted against including Jerusalem on the list. Twenty-three other world sites were included on the heritage list of world cultural and natural sites afforded UNESCO protection, bringing the total to 136.

PLO official stresses special ties with Jordan

AMMAN (Petra) — Director of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Office in Beirut Shafiq Al Hout has said that Jordan, with its geographical location and demography, is a basic political and crucial factor which cannot be overlooked or bypassed when talking about any political solution involving the Palestinians and the Palestinian issue. In an article published by the Kuwaiti newspaper Al Anba', Mr. Al Hout said the events of the last half century have created an objective fact, namely that Jordanians and Palestinians have developed special relationships. Mr. Hout said the Jordanian-Palestinian relationship is necessary whether in war or in peace because it is the fate of the two people who are closely linked together. Criticising those who are opposing such relationship, Mr. Hout said they should ask the Palestinians residing in Jordan for well over one third of a century about their future in case an independent Palestinian state is established without links with Jordan. Will these Palestinians abandon their Jordanian citizenship or Palestinian citizenship, and in this case, where would they be heading to, he asked.

British premier names new defence secretary

LONDON (R) — Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's selection of a glamorous orator as Britain's new defence secretary was greeted by political commentators Friday as an acknowledgement of growing public opposition to nuclear arms. Michael Heseltine, a handsome and eloquent millionaire who has been environment secretary since 1979, takes over from John Nott, who has announced he will retire from politics at the next general election. Mr. Heseltine has a reputation as a determined manager of a large spending department. But with a general election due this year or early next, commentators said he was unlikely to launch any major defence cuts. The Financial Times, the journal of Britain's business community, said Friday that until recently few people saw nuclear policy as a central issue. "But the widespread opposition to Trident [a new and expensive submarine-based nuclear missile] and to the deployment of American intermediate nuclear weapons on British territory has ensured that it can no longer be ducked or met only by slogans," the paper said. The independent Times newspaper wrote that the defence job called for a minister with a power of public persuasion.

Swiss fight to save Romansh

By Andrew Gowers
Reiser

CHUR, Switzerland — A growing band of enthusiasts in this eastern Swiss town is fighting to save Romansh, Switzerland's fourth language, from extinction.

In a new rescue plan, the Swiss government is expected to mark its own concern about the dwindling use of the 2,000-year-old language, which sounds so unusual that it has been called gibberish by many listeners.

The mountainous Canton of Grisons is its stronghold and about 36,000 inhabitants of the district still speak the language, about the same number as at the turn of the century.

They fear their language is being overwhelmed by a massive influx of tourists and German-speaking settlers. Since 1850, the proportion of Romansh-speakers in the language's home Canton has shrunk from nearly half to less than a quarter.

Romansh, a collection of five languages, is an ancient hybrid of Latin, generally thought to have been founded when the Romans conquered this alpine region in 15 B.C.

Its supporters insist that it is not a fossil and are determined that it

shall not go the way of such near-extinct languages as Manx or Cornish in Britain or Provencal in France.

"People have been saying Romansh is dying since the 16th century," said Bernard Cathomas, secretary of the Ligia Romontscha, a pressure-group for the language. "But in fact it has proved remarkably resilient."

Despite this quality, the language is now under threat as never before as Romansh-speakers leave the isolated valleys where it flourished and go to German-speaking towns like Chur itself in search of jobs.

"Romansh has been well-conserved because it is a peasant language," said Dr. Cathomas. "But that means it is limited, too. It has not found it easy to adapt to twentieth century needs."

Romansh was recognised as the fourth national language in 1938, mainly to confound suspected designs on Switzerland by Hitler in the north and Mussolini in the south. But this did little to stem the tide of "Germanisation" sweeping the region in the post-war years because it did not encourage use of the language in day-to-day speech.

Romansh has not been able to use modern mass media to stay on

the tip of the public tongue because speakers of the language have never been able to agree on which of its five varieties should be used for general communication.

The Ligia Romontscha is out to change all that. It is now publishing a series of books containing scientifically-invented Romansh vocabulary for all kinds of modern professional and leisure activities.

To overcome disputes between the different dialects, a Zurich linguistics professor, Heinrich Schmid, has this year produced a new artificial language based on all five.

A lively government-supported publishing industry in Romansh is also helping to breathe life into the language. Output includes several novels a year, selling about 1,000 copies a time, histories and children's books.

Schools in the traditional Romansh strongholds teach in the language up to the age of 14, and the Ligia Romontscha is trying to get the amount taught at higher levels stepped up.

The Ligia is also pushing for more radio and television broadcasts in Romansh from a small studio in Chur and more Romansh newspapers and magazines.

For extra support in its campaign, the Ligia is counting on

latent distrust towards Switzerland's German-speaking majority amongst the two other language minorities, the French and Italian-speakers. Dr. Cathomas said.

"After all Switzerland, which is built out of so many small parts, is very sensitive to the wishes of minorities," he said. "If it weren't it would be undermining its whole foundation."

As a result, the government's new preservation plan, to be unveiled, is likely to incorporate a good deal of the Ligia's demands.

But perhaps the most ambitious Romansh project of all is an academic labour of love also taking place in Chur — one which started nearly a century ago and may even outlive the language itself.

It is the first effort at compiling a definitive dictionary of the language. The "Institut Dal Dicziunari Rumanisch Grischun" started publishing this mammoth work in 1938, and the seven large volumes in print so far go up to the letter "G".

The editor, Prof. Alexi Decurtins, said the work was conceived around 1900. "It was to be a monument... nobody then gave Romansh more than 20 years," he said.

New brand of cheese for English palate

By William MacLean
Reiser

LONDON — A new cheese devised by scientists for the British palate has been launched in a blaze of publicity — but some shoppers are wondering where to find it.

Demand for Lymeswold, billed as Britain's first new cheese in 200 years, soared after Agriculture Minister Peter Walker was seen on television tucking into what he called "one of the great national successes of the next 12 months."

Now the tiny Lymeswold creamery in the west of England is working 24 hours a day, seven days a week to meet orders.

The soft, blue-veined cheese has a white exterior mould and is more like a French cheese than the hard varieties traditionally made in Britain.

Dairy Quest, the manufacturer, aimed to win a fat slice of Britain's £750 million (\$1.2 billion) cheese market, but now admits it bit off more than it could chew. Advertisements declare: "You can't hurry a good cheese."

Lymeswold was launched last September on what the manufacturers later realised was an

unusually quiet day for news and the story got extensive television and press coverage.

A company spokesman said: "This created a demand that was impossible to satisfy. Then the shortage became the news story and this created a still greater shortage."

Flood of orders

Big chain store orders have flooded into the small factory at the village of Cannington in Somerset.

Lymeswold went on sale at about £2.40 a pound (\$9.70 per kg), slightly more expensive than French Brie, but soon a major retailer, Tesco, found it could sell four times the amount it was able to buy.

Even Fortnum and Mason, a select west London emporium where the price tag reads £4 a pound (\$14 per kg), says customers buy it up as soon as it goes on the shelves.

Marketing executives are staggered by Lymeswold's success.

Britons are traditionally fond of harder types of cheese such as Cheddar and Cheshire and only four per cent of the cheese eaten

here is classified as soft.

According to statistics of the English country cheese council, a promotion body for the industry, Britons eat less of the food than any other country in Western Europe, apart from Ireland. And almost 70 per cent of the cheese they do eat is hard, mild Cheddar, quite unlike the continental-style Lymeswold.

The French eat three times as much cheese as Britons. They get through 18 kg (40 pounds) per head per year, Italians 14 kg (31 pounds).

Lymeswold was born from research showing that travelling Britons were bringing home a taste for soft cheeses like Brie.

Historical background

Scientists worked 18 months for Dairy Quest, the production arm of the milk marketing board, an official monopoly, to produce a rival cheese.

Marketing men made up the name Lymeswold to suggest a historic pastoral background and Dairy Quest spent £2.5 million (\$4 million) fitting the Cannington creamery with equipment from West Germany.

When sales took off, the tiny creamery was overwhelmed.

The cheese takes 14 days to ripen but needs several more to mature fully. Factory manager Richard Savage says demand has been so heavy that customers are being allowed to buy and eat the cheese when it is still hard, bland and not at its best.

Caerphilly, developed in the late eighteenth century, is believed by some to be the most recent of the great British cheeses — Cheddar, Stilton, Derbyshire, Double Gloucester, Lancashire, Leicester, Wensleydale and Cheshire.

But cheese expert Patrick Rance disputes Lymeswold's claim to great novelty, saying farmhouse dairies have created about 30 other new varieties in the past two centuries.

Mr. Rance, who runs a cheese shop near London, complains that production of these independent varieties is being discouraged by the milk marketing board.

The board itself is feeling satisfied. A spokesman said media coverage of the launch of Lymeswold brought publicity worth about £5 million (\$8 million). "We're delighted," he said.

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AQABA

Interview with General Zia: His beliefs, his hold over power and the way forward

By Alain Cass

One hour interview

ISLAMABAD — When General Zia ul-Haq, guided as he believes by the hand of God, seized power in Pakistan on July 5, 1977, Yuri Andropov was head of the KGB and on his way to the top. Five and a half years later, the man who dreams of turning one of the world's poorest nations into a model Islamic state and the new leader of atheist Russia met across a table in the Kremlin to talk about defusing the crisis in Afghanistan.

Mr. Andropov, peering through his thick spectacles at the short, stiff figure opposite, may well have savoured the irony of the situation especially if, as some would have the world believe, the former KGB chief opposed his predecessor's decision to send Soviet troops into Afghanistan.

The irony lies in the fact that it was this decision, as much as anything else, which turned General Zia into an important figure on the world stage — someone whose survival was suddenly seen as vital to the integrity of Pakistan, the stability of the region and the interests of the West in stemming the expansion of Soviet power.

The U.S. has since negotiated a major arms aid package with Pakistan, effectively underwriting President Zia's martial law for the foreseeable future. President Zia himself is now treated as a legitimate head of state, as he was in Moscow at the funeral of the late Leonid Brezhnev and as he was when he went to Washington for talks with President Ronald Reagan in early December.

Even Mrs. Indira Gandhi, India's Prime Minister, and ruler of the world's largest democracy, conferred her blessing on a regime she has often castigated when she met General Zia in November.

As he prepared for his trip to Washington, Zia spent an hour talking about his beliefs, his hold on power and, as he sees it, the way forward for Pakistan 35 years after it was carved out of British India.

Wearing a traditional knee-length shawl, Pakistan's chief of staff, chief martial law administrator and self-appointed President was, as usual, the epitome of courtesy and disarmament. He makes no apologies for himself, his regime or his methods. He may carry a big stick but he speaks softly with no hint of false modesty or, for that matter, vanity.

"Martial law," he says, "to a country with democratic principles like Britain is a red rag. I know. But I have no inhibitions about myself. I am not an elected representative. I am a military leader who imposed his will and has assumed power in order to save his country from the brink of civil war. But I am not a dictator."

"You could say," he adds with a smile, "I was an autocrat at worst."

This is certainly a matter of opinion. But he is right on two counts. Under his rule democracy in Pakistan, free speech and free political choice have been put safely out of reach. Political parties are banned, the press is cowed, radio and TV are government mouthpieces and those who dissent are sent to jail or worse.

General Zia's military court dispense summary justice, not as he says "in six years or six weeks or six days," but in "six weeks or six days." He says that, of all the capital punishment cases brought before him, he has never once felt the urge to commute any sen-

tences. "There is no reason for clemency," he says, "once the law has decided a man is guilty and a punishment is due."

That such a modest, almost humble, man, who is said to enjoy a warm and close family life, should not be able to show mercy is a chilling paradox. But he is also right when he says that when he seized power Pakistan was on the brink of chaos, still searching for its identity as an independent nation, deprived of Bangladesh after the 1971 war with India and composed solely of four deeply divided provinces.

Catch his breath

Even his opponents find it hard to argue when the general says that politics in Pakistan for the past 35 years has meant "violence, disturbances, fear, corruption and polarisation." Pakistan's experiment with democracy under Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, the last elected Prime Minister, and the man who appointed General Zia as his chief of staff, and, unwittingly, as his executioner, was a disaster.

Since then General Zia, through a combination of guile, force and sheer tenacity, has given Pakistan a stability of sorts and a chance to catch its breath. He has shrewdly retired or removed to a safe distance potential rivals within the armed forces. He has reduced the politicians to virtual insignificance.

He has embarked on a strategic relationship with the U.S. against the advice of some of those around him who believe Pakistan's non-aligned status is in danger. And he has, by a combination of good fortune, good management and foreign loans, managed to keep the Pakistani economy afloat. Growth rates have averaged over 6 per-

cent annually, harvests have been plentiful, industry is expanding and inflation has fallen. "Allah has been good," he says.

Last January President Zia inaugurated a 388-member council of carefully vetted members, which he views as an interim assembly. He has said repeatedly that elections will be held "when the time is ripe," though he admitted that he foresaw a dominant and permanent role for the armed forces at the pinnacle of any future political structure.

"It is the only way to avoid the cycle of martial law and chaos," he said. "In a small country like Pakistan, it is important that the army should have a role." He also says that the process of government should be "suitable to the psyche of the people of Pakistan." To his opponents this sounds ominously like a recipe for indefinite military rule.

Islamic state

But General Zia's real passion and the one which serves to reinforce his image as an authoritarian ruler who wants his people to do as they're told is Islam and his vision of an Islamic state. He prays five, sometimes six times a day, even interrupting state meetings to do so. Recently on a visit to North Korea he broke off a meeting with Communist leader Kim Il-Sung to pray in adjacent room.

President Zia believes in fate, and is convinced that God has chosen him for his present task. "Everyone who is born," he says, "is destined to every morsel he receives in his life. I am a humble man. I am a sinner. In my case the taking of the reins of government was an act of destiny."

The image of Iran's turbulent Islamic revolution has made him

particularly sensitive — he wants to build relations with the West and attract foreign technology to accusations, as he put it, that Islam meant "hanging, chopping off heads and hands."

In Pakistan, he insists, Islam will mean merely the refinement of society for a better and cleaner life. "Islam is a progressive and flexible faith," he says. "It is not hinged or fanatical. Some people call me a fundamentalist but I am not." Understandably, his claim that his mission is ordained by God means, as one critic put it, that "he can do what the hell he likes." Said another: "The fact is that he enjoys power and has no intention of giving it up if he can help it."

Naturally, General Zia denies this. "When the time comes, I shall retire and play golf," he adds that if his regime did not have what he describes as the tacit approval of the people "I assure you they would have taken me and all of us down the street and taken our trousers down by now." As a soldier, General Zia saw action both in World War II, and in two wars against India. Nobody would accuse him of cowardice and he gives the impression of a man who would be reconciled to death when it came.

There are those who warn that Pakistan cannot forever be governed without the open consent of its people. "There is a head of steam building up which will eventually blow," says one politician. Perhaps, but for the time being the well-mannered dictator of Pakistan seems comfortably settled in his assumed role as mentor of a confused nation searching for a role.

— Financial Times news feature

Black and white dilemma

IDEOLOGY never works in politics. President Reagan and his administration tried it the dispute over the Siberian gas pipeline, it never worked; the episode even hurt the U.S. and its allies more than it did their adversaries, the Soviets. That is why Washington, in its current efforts to find a comprehensive Middle East settlement, has to ignore fundamental Palestinian rights to independence and statehood in favour of Arab and Palestinian recognition of Israel's right to exist as the only viable option, bringing political stability to this troubled region.

This seems to be the essence of current American thinking on the Palestinian question, as outlined to Jordanian journalists by U.S. Senator Paul Tsongas during his short visit to Jordan on Wednesday and Thursday. A senator, who does not necessarily represent the Reagan administration views on the problem, has since left us for Israel to continue a fact-finding mission to a number of Middle East countries, but his words raise the question of what Arabs ought to do under the present circumstances.

Are we Arabs tuned to the American wavelength, even though it is difficult for us to accept the cruelty of politics when it comes to compromising our basic rights? Can we afford to believe that our "ideological" position has to be modified in order to meet Israel's "historical" claims to our territories on American "pragmatic" grounds? Well, and for well-known reasons, we have expressed willingness to talk, among ourselves, with the Americans and even the Israelis about the answers. But, it seems, nobody—especially the U.S.—wants to hear anything less than black and white answers from us.

The problem now lies not in that we cannot take clear-cut decisions at this stage and sell them in black or white, but in being unsure about the results, especially in view of an adamant Israeli rejection of all reasonable resolutions. It is not at all a question of ideology, like the Americans want us to make believe. If we are indeed indecisive, the U.S. need not look far to find the reason: Israel is at arm's length from the White House in Washington.

JORDAN'S ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Ra'i: Jordanian-Palestinian will restrengthened

A cable of congratulations His Majesty King Hussein received from prominent Jordanian and Palestinian personalities on the occasion of his return home is a typical expression of the Jordanian and Palestinian people's feelings in support of the sincere efforts the King made in the service of the Palestinian cause and rights.

It also expresses condemnation of those who usually try to thwart the Jordanian-Palestinian joint march through casting doubts on its purposes and attempting to split Palestinian ranks.

This clear stand is an invitation to all Arabs to support the joint march of the two peoples, reminding them of their national responsibilities towards the common cause, and at the same time reminding those who fall down such responsibilities that the peoples' will is strong enough to rebuff all

distortion attempts and sabotage of their cohesion. The crystallisation of a future unionist relationship between the two peoples is underway, as it is a real expression of their common interests, and the historical ties that characterised their existence. Moreover, it is an important step on the way to liberating the occupied Palestinian territories and their people.

The efforts the King makes to save Palestinian land, and defend Palestinian rights are an example to be followed by all these who really honour their national commitments, and genuinely care to see Jordanian-Palestinian ties take their natural shape; and it is only natural that the King's national concerns meet all the support and appreciation of the Jordanian-Palestinian family.

Dustour: Israel — a mentality without limit to ambitions

Before President Reagan's Sept. 1 initiative for peace in the Middle East, the U.S. policy centred on an undebatable concept for peace, that which guarantees "security" for Israel. And although the self concept of "security" is a loose and undecidable one, the successive U.S. administrations made of it a prerequisite for any consideration of the Middle East conflict.

The Reagan initiative opened the way for a new more balanced outlook to the issue. Following the advent of Israeli military campaign, a feeling of partnership in Israeli aggressive trends seems to have led the U.S. policymakers to reconsider their attitude to introduce a two-sided perspective, guaranteeing Israeli "security" on the one hand and seeking a peaceful settlement for the conflict on the other.

Following the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, several Israeli official announcements were made to the effect that Israel's borders are those made by all treaties. Such an expansionist attitude put the U.S. before a special responsibility to assess its aid towards the issue of defending such a con-

cept, which only sees Israel's "security" in the violation of other states' rights, sovereignty and security.

Israel is not only a state without geographical boundaries, but also a mentality without limits to its ambitions. And as the Jewish state rejects any peaceful settlement based on justice and international legitimacy, it is certain that any effort for establishing peace in the region in accordance with Israeli ambitions will be futile.

Israel's "security," according to the Israeli perspective, can not be adopted by the U.S. administration, or else this would subject the whole region and its peace to an Israeli blackmail aimed at forcing the world community to accept a U.S. backed Israeli "peace" based on aggression, annexation and expansion.

It is now quite absurd to imagine that a kind of peace based on Israeli preconditions can lead anywhere. The Lebanese-Israeli negotiations facing obstacles consistently can only demonstrate the impossibility of having peace with giving the Israeli ambitions space to decide the course of things.

Critical year ahead for South Africa

By David Reid

Reuter

JOHANNESBURG — South Africa, ended 1982 under a barrage of criticism for its commando raid into Lesotho and its stand on independence for Namibia (South West Africa), seems to be facing a critical year ahead.

The early months of 1983 could prove crucial, Western diplomats believe, not only for achieving an internationally acceptable settlement in Namibia, the former German colony ruled by South Africa in defiance of world opinion, but also for Prime Minister P.W. Botha's cautious drive for racial reforms at home. One of the highlights of 1982 was the first direct government contact between South Africa and Angola, haven for Namibian guerrillas fighting white rule and base of an estimated 18,000 Cuban troops supporting the Marxist rulers in Luanda.

Last month's meeting in the Cape Verde islands is expected to be followed by another at a time and place still to be decided. But the fact that the two sides met at all is considered a hopeful sign that the current imbroglio over the Cuban presence might be solved.

A formula agreeable to both sides — as well as to the black

African states, Cuba and the Soviet Union — would clear the way to peace in a bush war which has dragged on for nearly 17 years. And it could lead to a new era of stability in southern Africa, in the view of most diplomats in Johannesburg. The five Western contact group nations — the United States, Britain, France, West Germany and Canada — which have been striving to speed a Namibian settlement abstained in the U.N. General Assembly votes against South Africa on Namibia.

Continued optimism

Western spokesmen including President Reagan have declared their continued optimism that a settlement will be reached, while South African Foreign Minister P.W. Botha has put the chances of overcoming the Cuban problem as "50 per cent plus."

On the other hand, the raid on Maseru, described by Pretoria as a pre-emptive strike against African National Congress (ANC) guerrilla bases there, could prove yet another complication in the tortuous road to peace in Namibia. The unanimous Security Council vote condemning the raid — taken before South African Ambassador David Steward was allowed to put his case — angered South Africa and reinforced its contention that the U.N. cannot be trusted as an impartial supervisor of free elections planned for an independent Namibia.

It was this distrust of the U.N., which regards the guerrilla South West Africa People's Organ-

isation as sole legal representative of the Namibian people, that wrecked the Geneva conference on implementing the peace plan nearly two years ago. However, South African officials argue that the Maseru raid, like a similar operation in the suburbs of Maputo, the Mozambican capital, in January 1981 and a series of raids against SWAPO bases in Angola, was aimed at protecting the people of South Africa and Namibia, black and white, against communist-inspired subversion and terrorism.

The South Africans reject charges that it is they who are seeking to destabilise the region and say they are ready at any time to sign non-aggression pacts with their neighbours. These views were doubtless conveyed by Prime Minister Botha to Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda at their meeting on the South African-Botswana border last April and again when Foreign Minister P.W. Botha had a surprise border meeting with Mozambique officials last month following the talks with the Angolans.

What happens in Namibia, which has only about 75,000 whites in a population of more than one million, could also affect the political future of South Africa. Mr. Botha and his National Party are anxious to see a Namibian settlement that would instal a democratically-elected and friendly government in Namibia. Anything else, especially the prospect of "the red flag flying over Windhoek," as Mr. Botha

put it, would be seized on by right-wing opponents as selling the white in Namibia, mostly Afrikaners, down the river.

A testing time for Mr. Botha will come at the end of February when the term of office of the present national assembly in Namibia is due to expire after a three-month extension. Mr. Botha reluctantly agreed to the extension after an apparent bid to dislodge the Namibian political leader Dirk Mudge, a white farmer, and replace him with a black politician thought to have a better chance of leading anti-SWAPO forces to victory at the polls.

Uncertainty

What happens if no settlement is in the offing at the end of February is still uncertain. South Africa might resort to another round of internal elections like those that brought Mr. Mudge's multi-racial Democratic Turnhalle Alliance to power in November 1978. These polls were not recognised internationally, and are unlikely to be any more acceptable in 1983. They would risk delaying a settlement even further, increasing tensions in the region.

At home, Mr. Botha is awaiting vital decisions by the Coloured (mixed race) and Asian communities this month on his proposals for a sharing of white power with the two groups in a three-chamber parliament. The prime minister badly needs their support before the proposals go before parliament. Mr. Botha's hand has

been strengthened by recent by-election victories over both the right-wing rebel Conservatives who broke away from the National Party last March and the extreme right as represented by the Herlitz Nationale Party.

The latest of a series of opinion polls also backs Mr. Botha's view that a favourable climate for reform exists in South Africa. In a survey of Whites, Coloureds and Asians, the council found that 57 per cent of whites felt that blacks who lived outside the present self-governing homelands should be represented on the president's council, a body created in 1981 to replace the upper house of parliament, from which blacks are excluded.

And 48 per cent of the whites thought that without such a share in the constitutional process there was no chance of peace among the population groups.

Opposition leader Frederik van Zyl Slabbert of the Progressive Federal Party has said the exclusion of South Africa's 21 million black majority is the fatal flaw in the reform plans. But right-wingers such as Connie Mulder of the Conservative Party rejected the poll findings and declared: "At grass roots level the voters do not even want Coloureds and Indians on the president's council."

Leading anti-apartheid campaigner Sheena Duncan, president of the Black Sash Movement seeking a better deal for blacks, said in a recent article that Mr. Botha's proposed changes were not reform, but aimed at entrenching white power.

Singapore's Lee is looking for a successor and intelligent opposition

By Francis Daniel

Reuter

SINGAPORE — Singapore's Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew says he is looking for a suitable successor to step into his shoes by the end of the decade. He has indicated that new measures are under study to introduce more opposition members to parliament without upsetting his hold on power.

He told a recent session of his ruling People's Action Party (PAP) that a "more intelligent" opposition was needed to provide the kind of sparring partners that younger leaders he is grooming. Mr. Lee is now 59 and has been in power since the island state's independence in 1965. He says he will have to relinquish the leadership by the end of the 80s.

PM Lee's statement to the PAP surprised many Singaporeans and foreign diplomats, particularly for a sustained government campaign against organised dissent for the past year. The campaign came after a surprise victory by Workers Party leader J.B. Jeyaretnam, who entered the 75-seat parliament in 1980.

Mr. Jeyaretnam and other opposition leaders refuse to believe the tough prime minister has suddenly gone soft. Mr. Jeyaretnam says he fears Mr. Lee might devise new ways, including a change in the present British-style constitution, to create a tame parliamentary opposition. He said, however, Mr. Lee could not go on pushing the line that the opposition was unnecessary and irrelevant. "Given all my imperfections, Singaporeans are clever enough to understand the need for an opposition," Mr. Jeyaretnam said. He is worried that Mr. Lee's pronouncements might be a prelude to fielding PAP candidates disguised as independents to distort the opposition image.

Mr. Lee might also be preparing the public for any defeat PAP candidates might well suffer in future elections, he added. The next general election is not due until late 1984, but political sources said that the government might call a number of by-elections in the next few months to test the ground. The PAP, with a massive and well-gear political machinery, is too strong and well-entrenched for any opposition group to mount a serious challenge.

Opposition groups

There are about a dozen opposition groups, but all are weak and fragmented. Their growth has been stifled to a large extent by government restraints, but Mr. Jeyaretnam says the opposition was gaining silent support from Singapore's 2.4 million people. Mr. Lee himself accepted Mr. Jeyaretnam's election as "not a bad thing for the PAP," although he described the opposition leader as a man of limited political capability.

"I have come to the conclusion that we have to ensure that several better and more intelligent opposition members are in parliament," the prime minister said. "Without opposition members, the younger team has no sparring partners. They need real sparring partners to keep fit and agile. We may have to make some changes to bring this about."

Mr. Lee did not say what he had in mind. Some political sources said the PAP might decide not to contest some seats if it was assured of the two-thirds majority in parliament needed to make constitutional changes. The government might also be considering the possibility of creating an upper house where independents could be nominated, the sources said.

Only a year ago, immediately after Mr. Jeyaretnam's election, Mr. Lee said he considered a parliamentary opposition only of nuisance value, aimed at upsetting the smooth running of his administration that has made Singapore a major commercial and financial centre in Southeast Asia. He has apparently changed his mind on this, but still insists there is no alternative to his party.

He declared that "the PAP has been synonymous with the government. And the government is Singapore." He made clear he would only allow the opposition room to point out pitfalls to the government, not overthrow it. Otherwise, he said, younger PAP leaders would not be able to gain enough experience before they took over after 1990.

There was no suggestion that Mr. Lee was about to embrace a system that would entail easing restraints on the media, enhancing safeguards for civil liberties or allowing trade unions and other mass organisations full political freedom. He said his present preoccupation was to find a suitable person to succeed him. "The final handing of the baton is not going to happen immediately," he said. "But it cannot be delayed beyond this decade."



Why is a woman alone in a restaurant such a shock?



Salwa El Taher

As soon as I entered the restaurant, I wished I had never set foot in it. It always takes me by surprise, the effect I create. If I had a girl friend with me, a child, a dog, somehow things wouldn't be so bad. As it turned out, I had only a small package in my hands.

I affected an air of studied indifference and chose the first empty table I could spot. It was a corner table, behind the door leading to the kitchen, but I could not bear to look further. So many looks were fixed on me, as if on one accord, freezing my movements.

I sat down, barricading myself with my purse and my package on

the table. I felt flushed and hot, but dared not take off my jacket yet, lest the gesture be interpreted as an invitation of some sort. A man came forward on his way to the door, and stared at me steadily, adjusting his tie with self-satisfaction.

I was reprieved by the waiter who came to take my order. "One seven-up, please," I explained. "I am waiting for someone."

And then I was furious with myself. Need I justify my presence even to the waiter? But, in a way, I had to explain why I was ordering only a drink during lunch-hour. Everything was fine then. There was no reason to be self-conscious or to project my own uneasiness.

The fact remained that I could not let my eyes drift anywhere in the room without catching someone else's, if only for a second. Curious looks from families; friendly inquisitive looks from women; amused looks from couples. I was not dressed to attract attention — a pleated brown-checked skirt, beige blouse and beige jacket.

I remembered a woman I used to see when I was very young, during summer holidays with my parents, in the Palestine Hotel in Alexandria. Every morning at the same hour, this same woman sat at the same table facing the sea, alone. I remembered thinking she was the picture of misery. Poor woman, I thought even now; she must have felt like a fish out of water in the midst of all those exuberant families.

I sighed at the memory and now felt the need to do something with my hands. I fumbled for cigarettes and lighter. I never smoke before meals, but felt this would give me countenance. I noticed the menu

propped up on the table, reached for it and started to read it. Boneless chicken... steak au poivre... shish kebab... what shall it be? Someone, next to me was humming a tune from one of *Om Kalthum's* love songs; softly, then louder and louder. Surprised, I

"I can't imagine a woman going out to eat alone unless she has some serious marital or family problems, or she's in a really desperate state. Her presence would make me very uncomfortable."

raised my eyes, only to see two pools of naked greed staring unashamed and unabashed. A proprietor's insistent look. I reached for the package in front of me and opened it. I might not have anyone with me, but I had a pen and enough paper to write about a woman going into a restaurant alone.

As modern life means more and more women going out to work, travelling on their own and living on their own, it also means more and more women eating out alone. And yet this is one area where I've heard some of the most anachronistic comments. These reported reactions are those of both male and female friends of mine:

"A woman eating out alone? you must be kidding me!" commented one friend, laughing incredulously.

"I cannot imagine a woman going out to eat alone unless she has some serious marital or family problems, or she's in a really desperate state. Her presence would

make me very uncomfortable." (This from a male friend.)

"But why?"
"Because I would feel called upon to do something about it!"
"Such as what?"
"I don't know, exactly. Help her, console her, approach her."

"But what has it got to do with you, personally?"

"I'm not sure, I tell you. I just know I would feel compelled to act, that's all."

Another friend tried to dodge the issue:
"Eating is such a social thing, you see," he said. "A woman on her own just seems to break the pattern completely. A man eating out alone is not such a common phenomenon either, you have to admit."

"Granted, but he would hardly attract so much attention or mixed feelings, now, would he?"
"No, I expect he wouldn't."

Another friend had some strange reservations:
"My reaction to her would depend on her appearance."

"What do you mean by that?"

"I mean, if she is reasonably dressed and made up, I would glance at her then leave her alone."

A woman friend had reservations of a different nature:
"It would all depend on the way she acts," she informed me.

"How's that?"

"I mean, if she looks calm and

confident, if she acts as if she knows what she's doing, as if she belongs, then I accept her presence as normal."

Guilty until proven innocent: her very presence called into question: her clothes appraised, her gestures under surveillance... a woman is expected not just to be herself, but to act in a certain way in order to be 'accepted' in a restaurant.

A woman eating alone in a restaurant represents the unfamiliar and disquieting future. People's reactions to her betray all the symptoms described by Alvin Toffler in his best-selling book, *Future Shock*.

Among those he calls 'the victims of Future Shock', Alvin Toffler lists four types. The first type he calls 'the Denier':

"One widespread response to high-speed change is outright denial. The Denier's strategy is to 'block out' unwelcome reality."

Among my friends, the one who says: "A woman eating alone? you must be kidding me!" would fall in this category, dismissing the phenomenon as highly improbable or undesirable, therefore impossible. According to Toffler:

"An unknown victim of future shock, the Denier sees himself as a personal catastrophe. His strategy for coping increases the likelihood that when he finally is forced to adapt, his encounter with change will come in the form of a single massive life crisis, rather than a sequence of manageable problems."

A sequence of manageable problems, isn't that what life should ideally be? To live on the alert, on the look out for change, to spot it, recognise it and stop to re-assess our reactions to it, to redefine the hand-me-down

attitudes we have held so far. Such is the pace of modern life that it makes us shoot at a moving target, constantly requiring that we re-adjust our aim.

The second type of future shock victim is what Toffler calls 'The Specialist'. To read about him is to read about a very familiar type in the Third World:

"The specialist doesn't block out all novel ideas or information. Instead, he energetically attempts to keep pace with change, but only in a specific narrow sector of life. Thus we witness the spectacle of the physician or financier who makes use of all the latest innovations in his profession, but remains rigidly closed to any suggestion for social, political, or economic innovation."

The Specialist is a misleading

keep up with it. Human relations, on the other hand, might as well wait for another millennium. And who cares if we are propelling our children into the twenty-first century with attitudes from the Middle Ages?

Social planners should. For they must be aware of the extreme dangers of a society whose sectors develop at uneven rates. The individual is pulled in different directions and the texture of social life is made up of contradictions that engender conflicts and stress. Technology has everywhere turned into a monster because culture and behaviour lag behind.

There is, of course, an alternative to the harassing process of modernisation. We can choose to be what Toffler calls an 'enclave of the past'. For these do exist: they

Yet one can be much more objective in one's choices and ensuing actions after pondering on the meaning of adjustment. For it does not necessarily mean having

things wholesale in a package deal. It is a settlement with reality that does not necessarily entail embracing it whole, but simply coming to terms with it.

The woman in the restaurant is a symbol of the disquieting future. Adjustment to her presence does

not have to involve any personal judgement in her favour. To dismiss her presence is to delude oneself; to condemn her is to be unjust and irrational; to dictate certain reservations is to be patronising.

But to pass a value-judgement is unnecessary, for anyone feels

threatened and insecure when having to take a stand on unfamiliar ground. A simple statement of fact: "She has as much right to be

here as myself" is the reaction one might expect from a reasonable person, who could then proceed with his or her meal without disturbing anybody's digestion.

For what are we as people, if not the sum of our view-points and attitudes? Surely not the sum of our achievements and acquisitions, which often leave us empty-handed and with nowhere else to turn. Our attitudes are our key to harmony and growth, an on-going process of limitless scope and boundless dimensions.

Moscow grumbles at warm 'unhealthy' winter

By Brian Kullen
Reuter

MOSCOW — Muscovites, who normally delight in freezing cold at this time of the year, are grumbling after the warmest December in more than a century.

"An apology for a winter," one housewife complained as she trudged through dirty puddles of thawing snow on Christmas day.

Groups of Moscow children who normally skate on ice-covered tennis courts at this time of year have been moping indoors as average temperatures in the city, where 25 degrees Celsius (minus 13 degrees Fahrenheit) of frost was once normal in winter, hovered around five or six degrees Celsius (-41 to -42 degrees Fahrenheit) above zero for most of December.

Temperatures at the beginning of January plunged to minus 20 degrees Celsius (minus four degrees Fahrenheit) but there was still no snow for skiing and weather forecasts said temperatures for many parts of the

Soviet Union would remain generally higher than normal for the month.

Weather experts appear to be divided over the cause of the unusually warm Soviet weather and some are saying the winters which brought grief to the invading armies of Napoleon and Hitler could now be a thing of the past.

"Since the 1930s, our climate has been milder," one expert was quoted as saying in a Soviet newspaper.

But Muscovites, many of whom seem to take masochistic delight in freezing cold, would rather believe those who say 1982 has been a year of freak weather patterns.

The official Soviet news agency TASS said some Soviet and American scientists blamed the warm weather on a major volcano eruption in Mexico last March. It quoted them as saying that after next year it will be safer to predict Soviet winters.

Others have said the draught winter, characterised by piles of grey slush along the sides of Mos-

cow roads, can be explained by a series of cyclones moving one after the other and cutting off the Arctic from the European part of the Soviet Union.

But whatever the theory, Muscovites are heaving sighs of despair and asking what has happened to the Soviet winter as the latest weather reports predict further "light frosts and thaws."

Many look back fondly to 1978—when New Year celebrations got under way in what one reporter described as "an exhilarating 30 degrees of frost."

Enduring rigorous winter conditions has become a matter of pride for many Soviet citizens and the hardest among them, nicknamed "walrus," relish the lowest possible temperatures for their daily plunge into icy rivers.

Press articles have harked back to the past saying "winters never used to be like this."

This year Muscovites in fur hats, long-johns and several layers of clothing have looked uncomfortably warm, and melting ice-rinks have been a major topic of

conversation.

"This is bad for our health," one elderly man said.

Foreign journalists and diplomats whose favourite winter pastime is a game called broomball have been more miserable than most. Broomball has been described as a form of ice-hockey played in soft shoes on a frozen tennis court.

"A backlog of matches is building up and we will have to rearrange the fixture list," one journalist commented.

More serious could be the problems abnormal warmth might create for the Soviet Union's important grain harvest. Farming experts say the crop, which is regularly plagued by poor weather, could be at risk if fields not covered by snow are then hit by frost.

The official TASS news agency has said that even in the vast region of Siberia there was hardly any snow in December and the weather has been mild for the first time in many years.



Snow and freezing conditions come as no hardship to Muscovites.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

MAIN CHANNEL

06:30	Koran
06:45	Catholics
06:50	Local Children's Programme
07:00	Children's Play
07:10	Sports
07:20	Programme Preview
07:30	Agricultural Programme
07:40	News in Arabic
07:50	Arabic Series
08:00	Local Programme on Literature
08:10	Arabic Film
08:15	News in Arabic

FOREIGN CHANNEL

06:30	French Programme
07:00	News in French
07:30	News in Hebrew
08:00	Comedy, Young at Heart
08:30	Documentary
09:00	Saturday Variety Show
09:30	News in English
10:15	Feature Film: <i>Agnes of God</i>

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz, AM & 99.5 KHz, FM

partly on 99.5 KHz, SW

07:10	Morning Show
07:30	News Bulletin
08:00	News Summary
08:30	News Summary
09:00	Pop Session
09:30	News Bulletin
10:00	Picnic Time
10:30	Uncert. Hour
11:00	News Summary
11:30	Instrumentals
12:00	Jordan's Weekly
12:30	Special Feature
13:00	News Summary
13:30	Special Feature
14:00	Great Books of Islam
14:30	News Bulletin
15:00	Top Twenty
15:30	Date with a Star
16:00	News Summary
16:30	Cultural Concert
17:00	News Summary
17:30	Live Spot
18:00	News Summary
18:30	Country Music
19:00	News Bulletin, Sign Off

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

PLAY

* Waiting for Godot, by the Yarmouk Players, at the British Council at 7:00 p.m.

FILM

* Sept. Morts sur Ordinance, at the French Cultural Centre at 7:30 p.m.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) 245/90.
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) 245/90.
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) 245/90.
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) 245/90.
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) 245/90.
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh. 245/90.
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh. 245/90.
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh. 245/90.
Armenian International Church (Inter-denominational) meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani. 663249.

CULTURAL CENTRES

American Centre tel. 415201
British Council 36147-8
French Cultural Centre 37049
Greek Institute 41949
Soviet Cultural Centre 44203
Spanish Cultural Centre 36772
Turkish Cultural Centre 665151
Haya Arts Centre 667181
Hassan Youth City 667293
Y.W.C.A. 664251
Armenian Municipal Library 36111
University of Jordan Library 36355

MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qafra (Ciudad Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays) 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays.
Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculpture by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries. Collection of paintings by 17th Century orientalist artists. Munazah. Jabal Luweideh. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 30128.
Military Museum: Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Spars City, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays) 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 37109.

SERVICE CLUBS

Lions Amman Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Tyché Hotel. 1:30 p.m.
Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Marriott Hotel. 1:30 p.m.
Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn. 1:30 p.m.
Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the International Hotel. 2:00 p.m.
Royal Automobile Club. Jabal Amman, Eighth Circle. Tel. 815261.

PRAYER TIMES

05:13	Fajr
06:35	Sunrise
12:42	Dhuhr
14:29	Asr
16:47	Maghreb
18:11	Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER

AMMAN AIRPORT

This information is supplied by *Alia*. Information department at Amman Airport, tel. 92205-6, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

06:45	Cairo (EA)
06:45	Cairo (RJ)
08:45	Agaba (RJ)
09:15	Abu Dhabi (RJ)
09:30	Jeddah (RJ)
09:30	Karachi, Dubai (RJ)
09:40	Dhahran (RJ)
09:45	Kuwait (RJ)
10:15	Bahrain (RJ)
10:50	Abu Dhabi, Dubai (GA)
11:05	Abu Dhabi (SA)
14:25	Kuwait (KAC)
16:00	Belgrade, Istanbul (RJ)
16:30	Cairo (RJ)
16:45	Frankfurt, Geneva (RJ)
17:15	New York, Vienna (RJ)
17:30	Copenhagen, Athens (RJ)
18:05	Rome (Alitalia)
18:20	Athens (GA)
18:30	Cairo (RJ)
19:30	Baghdad (IR)
20:30	Frankfurt, Larnaca (LH)
20:40	Beirut (MEA)
22:30	Baghdad (RJ)
00:30	Cairo (RJ)
00:45	Baghdad (RJ)
01:45	Cairo (EA)

MONEY EXCHANGE

Local selling rates in Jds

Belgian franc	75.3	75.8
Dutch guilder	134	134.8
Egyptian pound	322.5	328.5
French franc	52.3	52.6
Irish dollar	566.2	577
Italian lire (for 100)	25.7	25.9
Japanese yen (for 100)	152.1	153
Kuwaiti dinar	1204.2	1212.2
Lebanese lira	92.4	93.8
Omani rial	1008.7	1018.7
Qatari riyal	95.5	96.2
Saudi riyal	101	101.7
Swedish crown	48.1	48.4
Swiss franc	176.4	177.5
Syrian lira	62.1	63
U.A.R. dirham	94.8	95.5
U.S. dollar	565.3	568.7
U.S. dollar	349	350
W. German mark	148.2	149.1

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Cold weather with clouds increasing gradually. Chance of thunder activity in the southern and eastern parts. Agaba Gulf, partly cloudy with fresh northerly moderate winds.

Low/high temperature in deg. C:
Amman 11/1
Agaba 10/13
Dumana 10/18
Jordan Valley 10/21

06:45	Cairo (RJ)
06:45	Larnaca, Frankfurt (Lufthansa)
07:00	Agaba (RJ)
07:45	Beirut, Paris (AF)
07:50	Cairo (EA)
08:45	Beirut (MEA)
11:00	Vienna, New York (RJ)
11:15	Tunis, Casablanca (RJ)
11:30	Athens (GA)
11:55	Athens, Zurich (Swissair)
12:40	Paris, London (RJ)
12:45	Frankfurt, Geneva (RJ)
12:50	Cairo (RJ)
14:30	Cairo (RJ)
15:30	Kuwait (KAC)

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES

Ambulance	193, 75111
Fire, fire, police	199
Blood bank	75121
Civil Defence teams	66111
Police headquarters	22090-3
Police rescue	192, 21111, 37777
Police headquarters	39141
Traffic police	56590-1
Electric power Co.	36381-2
Municipal water service	71125-8

HOSPITALS

Hussein Medical Centre	813813-32
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amman	44281-4
Akshah Maternity, J. Amman	42441
Jabal Amman Maternity	42362
Malinas, J. Amman	26140
Palestine, Shmeisani	664171-4
Shmeisani Hospital	669131-5
University Hospital	848545
Ar-Raiat, J. Hussein	667158
Al-Musharraf Hospital	667221-9
The Islamic, Abadi	665292
Al-Ahli, Abadi	664164
Italian, Al-Muhajreen	77101-3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh	77101-3
Army, Meis	91611

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN	
Dr. Muzir Al Qaryouti	76258

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MARKET

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SPORTS

English League giants begin F.A.Cup trial

LONDON (R) — The precarious road to Wembley begins in earnest Saturday when the 44 giants of the English first and second divisions enter the fray for the first time in the third round of the Football Association (F.A.) Cup.

Friday night the players of all 64 clubs in action can savour dreams of glory on Cup final day on May 22. Hat-tricks will be scored, penalties saved and medals awarded.

All involved at second division Blackburn should make the most of such fantasies because reality, in the awesome shape of Liverpool, is likely to be a nightmare. But, traditionally, the third round of the F.A. Cup is a day of giant-killing deeds and although Liverpool will undoubtedly survive there could be a number of big-name casualties, including Brian Clough.

He takes his Nottingham Forest side, European Champions in 1979 and 1980 and currently fourth in the League, to Derby County, bottom of the second division.

Clough led Derby to the first division championship in 1972 and the club is now run by his long-time assistant Peter Taylor, who would like nothing better than to put one over on his old partner.

Despite their lowly position, Derby have improved out of all recognition since Taylor rejoined the club and Forest can expect a fraught 90 minutes.

The other first division Nottingham Club, Notts County, also look vulnerable. They travel to second division Leicester, semi-finalists last season and a force to be reckoned with on their own patch.

Nor can Ipswich be happy about their trip to Charlton. The first division outfit have struggled this season following the loss of manager Bobby Robson, now national team boss, and Dutch midfielder Arnold Muhren to Manchester United.

The Ipswich of old would have been merciless toward Charlton but the Londoners, with former European Footballer of the Year Allan Simonsen of Denmark in their ranks, are climbing out of trouble in the second division and could secure a place in the fourth round.

Fourth division Scunthorpe will also be confident of advancing to the last 32 at the expense of second division high-fliers Grimsby.

Scunthorpe, whose main claim to fame is that they have had three England captains on their books over the years—Kevin Keegan, Ray Clemence and cricketer Ian

Botham—have been in fine form recently and could upset the odds. Malcolm Allison, who has enjoyed his share of the headlines over the years, will be bopping nothing newsworthy happens at Middlesbrough.

The second division strugglers entertain Bishop's Cleeve, one of three non-League clubs to have reached the third round, and the part-timers are quietly confident they can embarrass their loftier opponents.

The Tottenham side which lines up to begin its defence of the Cup on Saturday is almost unrecognisable from the team which lifted the famed trophy less than eight months ago.

Injury, illness and bureaucratic hold-ups look set to leave the holders' ranks severely depleted for their third round clash at home to Southampton.

Argentine World Cup star Osvaldo Ardiles dealt the biggest blow to manager Keith Burkinshaw. Ardiles, who had been expected to play on Saturday after returning to Tottenham from French club Paris Saint Germain last month, was ruled out by the English F.A. Thursday because they had not received his international clearance from the French 14 days before the match.

But the biggest crowd will be at Old Trafford where Manchester United, third in the first division, meet fifth-placed West Ham.

Borg, Connors clash in \$250,000 meet semi-final

ROSEMONT, Illinois (R) — Four of the world's top players are set for a pair of potentially exciting shootouts in the semi-finals of a \$250,000 professional tennis tournament here.

Bjorn Borg of Sweden, Americans Jimmy Connors and John McEnroe and Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia all go into the semi-finals of the round robin without having lost a match.

Borg, a five-time Wimbledon winner, meets Connors, the current Wimbledon Champion. McEnroe, also a former Wimbledon winner, is to meet Lendl, who eliminated him from the U.S. Open last year.

On Thursday night McEnroe beat compatriot Eliot Teltscher 7-6, 6-4. Borg defeated 19-year-old Henri Leconte of France 6-2, 6-7, 6-1 and Connors eliminated fellow-American Vitas Gerulaitis 6-1, 6-4. Lendl had qualified earlier by winning two matches.

Leconte extended Borg through the second set with his all-out play, failing on the court three times as he dived for Borg's shots. After taking the tiebreaker 7-4, Leconte won a standing ovation from a crowd of more than 11,000.

Connors, normally aggressive, went to the net even more than usual in his victory over Gerulaitis and said later he had been too relaxed in his second-round match against Leconte.

"So I thought it would be best to go forward, to pick up where I left off last year," he said. Connors won both Wimbledon and the U.S. Open in 1982.

Soviets end successful hockey tour of U.S.

PHILADELPHIA (R) — The Soviet Union ended their six-match tour against clubs from the North American National Ice Hockey League by beating the Philadelphia Flyers 5-1 (period scores: 2-0, 2-1, 1-0) here Thursday night.

The victory was the fourth against two defeats on the tour. Star goalkeeper Vladislav Tretiak played in all four of the victories while Vladimir Myshkin was in goal for the two matches the Soviet side lost.

Mikhail Vasiliev and Vladimir Krutov scored in the first period, and the Russians increased their advantage at 9:01 of the second period when Igor Larionov converted slick passes from Vyacheslav Fetisov and Victor Tiunenev during a power play.

Mark Howe scored Philadelphia's only goal at 16:04 during a power play situation created when Philadelphia challenged Vasiliev's stick as being illegal.

Referee Bruce Hood measured Vasiliev's stick, found its curvature exceeded NHL rules and gave him a two-minute penalty.

Previously, Krutov's stick was measured and found to be illegal and he was given a minor penalty.

English cricket dies again; Australia regains the Ashes

SYDNEY (R) — Australia regained the Ashes after a five-year wait at the Sydney Cricket Ground Friday as England's challenge in the fifth and final cricket test predictably fell short.

Set to score 460 to level the series and retain the Ashes, for which the two sides have battled for 100 years, England had scored 314 for seven when time finally ran out on them.

England had virtually lost all chance of victory when they could not bowl Australia out cheaply, but yet again Friday their recognised batsmen failed. It was left to spin bowler Eddie Hemmings with a fine, fighting 95 to deny Australia the win which would have given them a 3-1 margin in the series.

Nightwatchman Hemmings, whose previous highest test total was 29, just missed a well-deserved century when he was caught behind by Rodney Marsh off spinner Bruce Yardley.

At the end, Australian captain Greg Chappell held aloft a small urn-like trophy, presented by supporters and inscribed: "The Ashes. English cricket dies again. Fondly accepted by Greg Chappell and Co., Sydney Cricket Ground, Jan. 7, 1983."

Australia first beat England in a test in 1882 and sorrowing English cricket lovers put a funeral notice in the sporting times lamenting the death of English cricket. Ever since, an urn containing its "Ashes" has been played for by the two countries.

Chappell, who said the winning of the Ashes was the highlight of his career, later announced he would stand down in favour of

Kim Hughes as captain in the limited-over one-day international against England and New Zealand starting next week.

Hughes, named Man of the Match, put victory beyond England's reach Thursday when he hit 137 runs in Australia's second innings of 382.

England then had to bat for 15 minutes and lost opener Geoff Cook for two. The other opener, Chris Tavare, fell for 16 Friday with the total on 55.

Tavare was not the only failure. David Gower went for 24 and Allan Lamb for 29, all three prized wickets falling to Yardley who finished with figures of four for 139.

Derek Randall (44) and Ian Botham (32) added 64 for the sixth wicket before fast bowler Jeff Thomson claimed them both in the space of three balls.

Even without the injured Dennis Lillee and Terry Alderman, Australia's pace attack was too hot for the inconsistent England batsmen and Geoff Lawson deservedly picked up the Man-of-the-Series award for his haul of 34 wickets.

There may have been an element of justice in Australia's failure to win the final test following the controversy surrounding at least two umpiring decisions.

Video replays showed John Dyson should have been given run out in the first over of the match before he went on to make 79 while English supporters still believe Hughes was out twice early in his great innings of 137.

But the series was played in a tremendous atmosphere of sportsmanship and England captain Bob Willis was on the field to congratulate every Australian player personally at the end.

Willis, who said he had no complaints about the outcome, added: "We were beaten by a better side. There were one or two highlights for us, but not many and we've still got most of the problems we left England with."

"Fast bowlers and opening batsmen are things we can't produce in England at the moment and I think those two areas probably let us down more than anything."

Italy's Oliva wins European light-welterweight title

FORIO D'ISCHIA, Italy (R) — Italian Patrizio Oliva won the European light-welterweight boxing title, crushing defending champion Robert Gambini of France with a cool and ruthless display of powerful punching.

Roared on by a fiercely partisan crowd, Oliva was never troubled as he emerged a comfortable points winner over 12 rounds. It was his 26 consecutive victory since he turned professional just over two years ago. "Things started well and I never had any problems," he commented.

For Gambini, the defeat was a bitter disappointment in his first defence of the title he won against Brian Clinton McKenzie, disqualified in London last October.

Oliva, who won the light-welterweight Olympic title in Moscow in 1980, was always faster and stronger, battering the Frenchman with vicious lefts and rights to the head.

Gambini's face, a patchwork of cuts and bruises at the final bell, eloquently told the story of the punishment he soaked up.

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THE BRITISH COUNCIL المجلس الثقافي البريطاني

The Yarmouk University Players present

"WAITING FOR GODOT" a tragic-comedy in two acts by Samuel Beckett

at The British Council on Thursday Jan. 6 at 7 p.m. and on Saturday Jan. 8 at 7 p.m.

Tickets JD 1.000 (half price to members of the British Council)

THE GOVERNMENT TENDERING DIRECTORATE ANNOUNCEMENT TENDERING MINISTRY OF EDUCATION SCHOOL BUILDINGS

The Central Tendering Committee announces the tendering of the following buildings:

- 1- Extension of Howara Community College (Area 2400m²)
- 2- Extension of Salt Community College (Area 1250m²)
- 3- Extension of Marka Polytechnic (Area 970m²)

All classified contractors for 1982 in the Ministry of Public Works as Class A and B General and buildings, and all international contracting firms registered at the INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR DEVELOPMENT AND RECONSTRUCTION are invited to get copies of the tendering documents from the Project Implementation Unit, the Ministry of Education (behind Public Security offices, Tel: 661166) against a non-refundable fee of JD 25 for every copy of each school.

Last date for obtaining the tender documents is Tuesday, Jan. 25, 1983 before 12 O'clock noon.

Last date for receiving tendering documents is Thursday, Feb. 3, 1983, before 12 O'clock noon at the Project Implementation Unit—Ministry of Education.

Notes:

- 1) All tenderers has to submit their offers in two separate envelopes; the first containing their qualification documents and technical offer including time schedule, equipment, previous experience and workload and the second containing the financial offer and the priced bill of quantities.
- 2) The cost of this announcement will be paid by the tenderer.
- 3) All tenderers has to fill the prices in the bill of quantity both in numbers and writing.

Chairman of the Central Ten. Committee
General Director of the Government Tendering Directorate.

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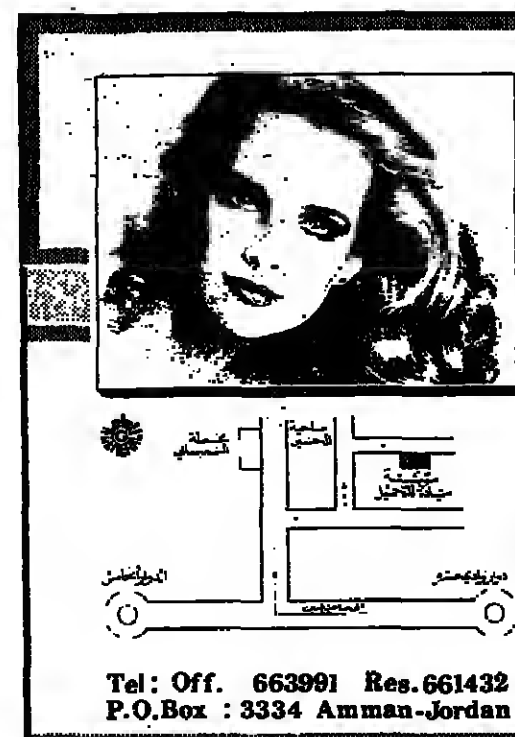
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كردنا مع العلم

NEWS IN BRIEF

Wall Street booms again

NEW YORK (R) — Wall Street is booming again with investors sending stock prices to a new peak despite repeated signals that the U.S. economy is still in the doldrums. The Dow Jones industrial average closed Thursday at 1,070.92, up 26 points for the day. The previous record was 1,070.55 on Dec. 27.

Tokyo stock market flourishes

TOKYO (R) — Share prices on the Tokyo stock exchange reached a record high Friday for the third successive day, buoyed by Wall Street's surge and expectations of an early cut in Japan's official discount rate. The number of shares changing hands was the biggest in nearly two years at 950 million and the market average finished 48.78 points higher at 3,169.29 after Thursday's 54.36 rise.

Value of sterling slips

LONDON (R) — Sterling's overall value against a basket of major currencies slipped to its lowest level in almost two years Thursday amid fresh unease about the outlook for the British economy. The trade-weighted index showed sterling at 82.9 per cent of its 1975 value, down from 83.5 Wednesday and its lowest level since the Bank of England started the current method of calculation in February 1981.

Israeli financial chief resigns

TEL AVIV (R) — The chairman of the board of directors of the Tel Aviv stock exchange, Dr. Meir Heth, has resigned after severe criticism of remarks he made attacking the working of the exchange. Dr. Heth told a press conference earlier in the week that the performances of some new companies wishing to sell shares in a currently booming market were not good enough, and warned investors that a sharp decline in share prices was on the way.

Zambia devalues kwacha

LUSAKA (R) — Zambia Friday devalued its currency, the kwacha, by 20 per cent and announced it was suspending repayments of principal on its medium- and long-term foreign debts while seeking a rescheduling from its creditors.

Brazil outlines economic course

BRASILIA (R) — Brazil Thursday outlined the economic programme it intends to follow, including sweeping cuts in price subsidies and public spending and restrictions on imports, in return for a three-year emergency loan of about \$4.9 billion from the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Pakistan to expand gas production

WASHINGTON (OPECNA) — Pakistan is to expand its natural gas production with an \$88.2 million loan from the International Finance Corporation (IFC) and a consortium of other institutions. The IFC will provide \$15 million, with the remainder coming from the Arab Banking Corporation, the Middle East Bank, the Chase Manhattan Bank, Lloyds International, the International Westminster Bank, the Bank of America and other groups.

U.S. jobless rate soars

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. unemployment rate soared to a 42-year high of 10.8 per cent in December with another 100,000 Americans joining the jobless rolls, the Labour Department announced Friday.

Some 12 million Americans were out of work last month, more than at any time since the great depression of the 1930s, as the worst U.S. recession in the post-World War II era continued to take its toll.

The department previously reported the unemployment rate in November as 10.8 per cent, but annual technical revisions in the information released Friday resulted in modest changes in the reported jobless rate in eight of last year's 12 months. The new figure for November was 10.7 per cent.

The department said that, had it not been for the revisions, the December rate would have been 11 per cent.

Unemployment has now risen by 4.2 million since the economic downturn began in July, 1981, an increase of over 50 per cent.

In addition to the 12 million workers officially listed as unemployed last month, 6.4 million more have been forced to accept part-time work and about 1.8 million "discouraged" workers have simply dropped out.

Italians protest against government austerity plan

NAPLES, Italy (R) — Thousands of angry workers Friday occupied main railway stations in Naples, Florence and other cities in spontaneous protests against government austerity measures, police said.

In Naples, police said the main railway station was blocked for an hour by about 3,000 demonstrators, paralysing trains on Italy's southern rail link as crowds invaded the tracks, waving banners and chanting slogans against Prime Minister Amintore Fanfani.

Police said smaller protests erupted in other parts of the city, while in nearby Pomigliano d'Arco about 1,000 Alfa Romeo car workers took over another station blocking local rail traffic around Mount Vesuvius.

The protests came as the government considered sharp cuts in health and insurance services following a series of tax increases designed to help the country's troubled economy.

Many Naples shops remained closed and nervous police chiefs called nearly 5,000 patrolmen and paramilitary carabinieri into the streets as a precaution against rioting.

Office and factory workers throughout the city joined the

main demonstration beginning in mid-morning outside the station.

In Florence, thousands more workers occupied the station and blocked city centre streets while several hundred demonstrators blocked the east coast railway near the southern town of Bari.

The protests came as Mr. Fanfani summoned his cabinet to decide on health and insurance cutbacks to complete a 15,000 billion lire (\$11 billion) package of tax increases and state spending cuts.

Mr. Fanfani's four-party Christian Democratic-led coalition raised taxes on housing, transport and electrical goods by nearly 7,000 billion lire (\$5 billion) a week ago.

As the government prepared the next stage of its austerity plan, 300 slogan-shouting demonstrators scuffled with police outside the prime minister's office in central Rome.

Friday's protests followed some milder forms of protest in the past

week since Mr. Fanfani announced his tax increases.

Shipyard workers in the Sicilian capital of Palermo and the northern port of Genoa briefly disrupted med. rail and air traffic Thursday while Genoa steelworkers stopped work for several hours on Tuesday.

The unpopularity of the government's measures has produced tension and heart-searching in all four government parties in a likely election year.

After giving their initial approval, the two smallest coalition parties, the Social Democrats and the Liberals, have already tried to reverse some of the tax increases, while Socialist Finance Minister Francesco Forte has quietly shelved plans for a new, once-only tax on earnings of the self-employed.

Back-benchers in Mr. Fanfani's dominant Christian Democratic party also have shown signs of dissent.

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Equities were firmer in moderate trading following Thursday night's record gains on Wall Street but bonds were slightly easier reflecting continued fears over sterling, dealers said. The F.T. index at 1500 Friday was up 4.6 at 619.7.

Among the leaders Blue Circle rose 5p to 458, GKN firmed 6p at 127 and Thorn EMI advanced 12p at 445. Bowater were up 8p at 170 following press comment while Plessey rose 15p to 639 on further consideration of its mobile radio system agreement with Rockwell.

Gold producers were mostly higher while North American shares continued Thursday night's higher trend on Wall Street.

Government bonds, having fluctuated throughout the day, ended slightly easier amid continued concern over sterling, dealers said. Conventional bonds were around 1/8 point lower while index-linked bonds continued to attract interest and finished as much as 3/8 point higher.

Oils continued firmly after Thursday's news that Saudi Arabia intends holding to its \$34 benchmark. B.P. was up 6p at 310 and Ultramar rose 5p to 521. Banks, after initial losses, recovered to finish around Thursday night's closing levels.

Sears Holdings were unchanged on balance at 101 while Empire Stores, which it to discuss a bid for, was also unchanged at 86.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday.

One sterling	1.6015/25	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.2295/98	Canadian dollars
	2.3435/45	West German marks
	2.5910/20	Dutch guilders
	1.9500/20	Swiss francs
	46.17/22	Belgian francs
	6.6475/6525	French francs
	1352.75/1353.25	Italian lire
	230.35/55	Japanese yen
	7.2310/60	Swedish crowns
	6.9710/60	Norwegian crowns
	8.2825/2925	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	454.25/455.25	U.S. dollars

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, JAN. 8, 1983

YOUR DAILY Horoscope from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: This is a good day to look over your surroundings and make plans for improvement. Devise quicker ways to handle chores. You have a good chance to gain greater success now.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Make plans to gain your finest aims. Find out what close ties expect of you. Keep poised and serene at all times.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) You can now develop good ideas by studying events in newspapers and magazines. Use tact in a communication.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Express your talents to one in authority. Showing increased affection for loved one brings excellent response.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Take steps to cooperate more with close ties. Study new project that could bring greater success.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) There is much work ahead of you so waste no time in accomplishing your tasks. Avoid one who is always asking for favors.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Stay within your budget if you go out for amusement or you will regret it later. Follow advice of experts.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Handle routine chores early in the day so you'll have time for recreation later. Be more outgoing at a group affair.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Good day to study your monetary position and figure out a sensible way to improve it. Take it easy tonight.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Make needed changes in your surroundings and improve the quality of your life. Make this a most productive day.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Making plans early in the day to gain your personal goals is wise. Take time tonight for proper recreation.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) A good day to engage in recreational activities that appeal to you. Show more affection to family members.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Plan how to make your future brighter. Listen to what co-workers have to suggest. Strive for more happiness.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be one of those brilliant young persons who can communicate well with others. Teach to handle money wisely and to be more considerate of others. Don't neglect religious training early in life.

"The Stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

Abe pledges to widen Japan's market for foreign goods

ROME (R) — Japanese Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe, ending a five-nation West European tour, pledged Friday to widen his country's market for foreign goods.

A spokesman for the minister said the undertaking was made during a meeting with Italian Prime Minister Amintore Fanfani.

He told reporters tariff reductions affecting 75 items which were announced in Tokyo last month would be followed this month by new measures in an effort to ease European criticism of what the West sees as the closed nature of the Japanese market.

The measures would include enlarged quotas for certain unspecified items and steps to speed up procedures involved in importing goods. No new cuts in tariffs were foreseen, he said.

The spokesman quoted Mr. Abe as saying that his tour had convinced him of the severe problems facing European Community economies and of the need to increase industrial cooperation between Japan and the Community.

Mr. Abe, making his first trip abroad since taking office late last year, was not present at the press briefing. He is due to return home Saturday and then accompany Prime Minister Yasuhiro

Nakasone to the United States later this month.

During his visits to Belgium, West Germany, Britain and France, he heard sharp criticism of Japan's big trade surplus with the Community, which was over \$10 billion in 1981.

France and Britain in particular attacked what they termed restrictive Japanese trading policies as contributing to the surplus, and described the latest tariff cuts as inadequate.

The spokesman said Mr. Abe's meetings Friday with Mr. Fanfani and Foreign Minister Emilio Colombo were comparatively conciliatory in tone.

"Paris was by far the toughest stage," he said.

But he added that Mr. Abe strongly attacked Italian restrictions on Japanese imports, during his meeting with Mr. Colombo and said the Community must also contribute to opening trade and avoiding protectionism.

Italy tightly restricts imports of 38 Japanese goods, including cars, motorcycles and colour television sets.

Italian officials said Mr. Colombo replied that the Japanese economy was set for faster growth than that of the Community and that Tokyo should provide the most trade concessions.

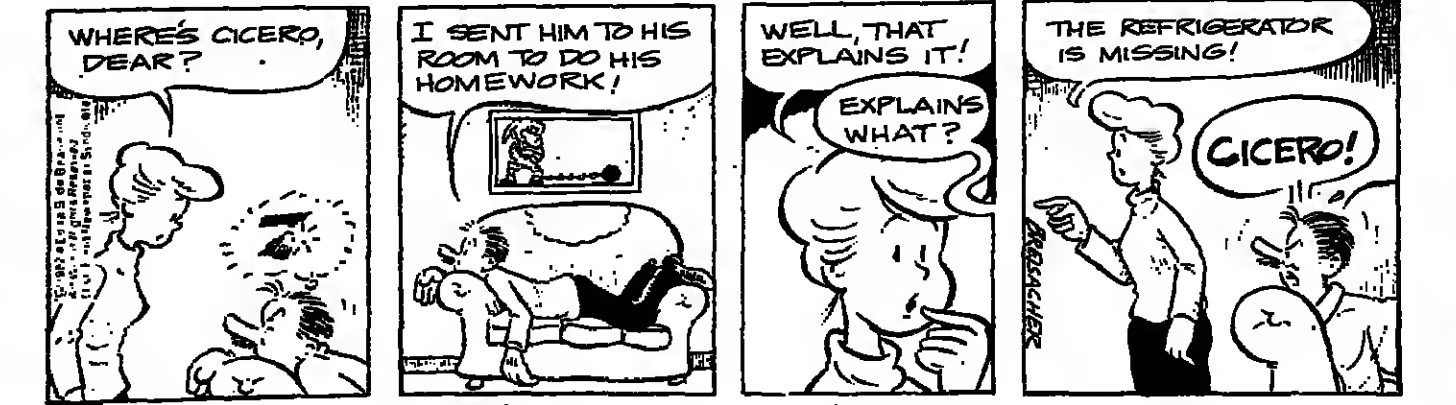
THE BETTER HALF By Harris



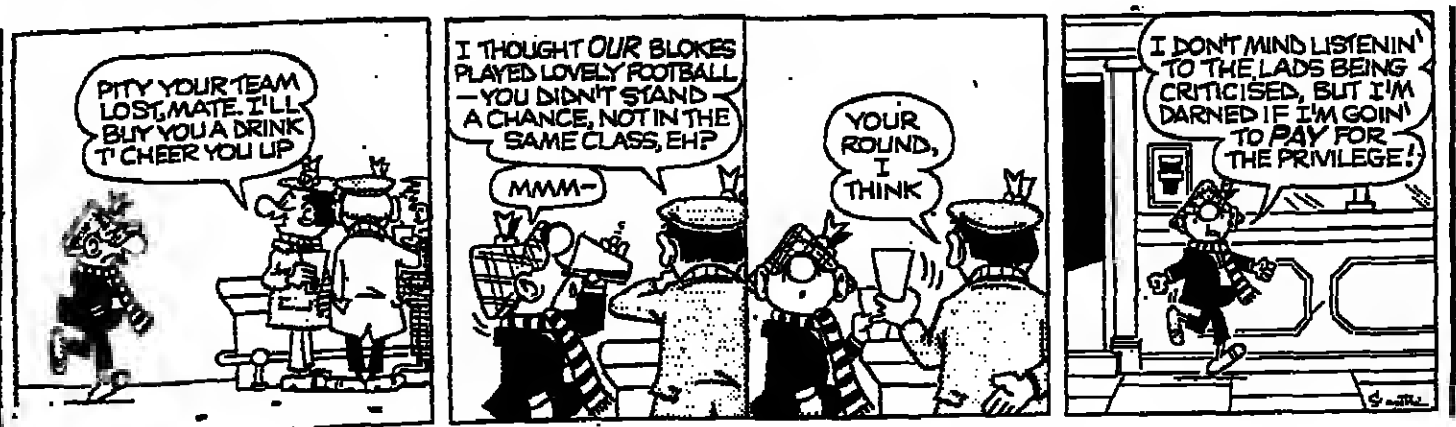
Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Hann Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

GOGER

DEUXE

ZOLENZ

DROBIF

WHAT THE COP SAID TO THE BURGLAR.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here:

Answers (anonymous)

Jumbles: NEEDY BEIGE TWINGE PRIMER

Answer: Could be eating — with a great deal of noise — "DIN-ING"

THE Daily Crossword by Joel D. Lafargue

- ACROSS
- 1 Elevator man
- 5 Machine openings
- 10 Bench garment
- 14 Roman meat
- 15 Eyelashes
- 16 Abba
- 17 Inexpensive one
- 19 Kind of skirt
- 20 Printemps follower
- 21 — do well
- 22 "we stand..."
- 24 Grow rich
- 26 — a-brac
- 27 Biscuits
- 33 With time to spare
- 36 Box
- 37 "Ask — what your country..."
- 38 Orgy utterance
- 39 Crepe de —
- 40 Nat or Natalie
- 41 Permit
- 42 Extort
- 43 Rustic residence
- 44 London's "FBI"
- 47 M. Coty
- 48 Scant
- 52 Hardware purchase
- 55 Greek porch
- 57 Inlet
- 58 Mubarak, for one
- 59 Members of the force
- 62 Passage fee
- 63 — Gey (WWII plane)
- 64 Graf —
- 65 Dueler's weapon
- 66 Stair post
- 67 Group of Guernseys
- DOWN
- 1 One fewer than an enameled
- 2 "Choppers"
- 3 — tube
- 4 Disconsolate
- 5 Harangue
- 6 "— is just a bowl"
- 7 Swan genus
- 8 Uncle Sp.
- 9 Drench
- 10 Actress Lee —
- 11 News item, for short
- 12 Poison
- 13 Author Bagbold
- 18 Legate
- 23 Pleasant land
- 25 Seagirt
- 28 Liqueur
- 29 One-seeded fruit
- 29 Wapt
- 30 Sufficient, to Spenser
- 31 Historic quest
- 32 Ending for young or old
- 33 Conger and lamprey
- 34 With Fr. Guernseys
- 35 Magazine section
- 39 Tribal members
- 40 Musical finale
- 42 Exploded
- 43 Porgy
- 45 Threefold
- 46 Not knowing right from wrong
- 49 Complaint
- 50 Down source
- 51 Scratched out
- 52 Fill to the brim
- 53 Jockey's prodier
- 54 Chest sound
- 55 Pack away
- 56 Far: prof.
- 60 Chemical ending
- 81 Residue



WORLD

Mrs. Gandhi suffers heavy blow

NEW DELHI (R) — Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi had informal talks with colleagues in her Congress (I) Party Friday following major state election defeats for the party which could confront her with serious political problems.

The 65-year-old leader has not commented on her party's humiliating defeat Thursday in the southern states of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka, traditional strongholds for the Congress (I) Party.

Analysts have described the situation as critical because of widespread dissent among members.

Mrs. Gandhi also failed to dislodge the Marxist Communist Party (CPM) in Tripura, in the north-east, where it won an absolute majority in the 60-member assembly.

Congress General Secretary Rajendra Kumar Bajpai told Reuters: "It was a negative vote against us. We have our shortcomings but our rivals played on regional and linguistic issues."

In Karnataka, the victorious alliance of the Janata Party and a regional grouping began talks on forming the state's first non-congress government.

The Karnataka grouping, which includes Congress (I) rebels, led a movement in the state last year to introduce the majority Kannada language as the main language in schools.

Political analysts said Mrs. Gandhi's electoral defeats could strengthen regional demands for more autonomy and linguistic concessions.

Mrs. Gandhi is already under strong pressure from militant Sikhs for religious and political concessions, including greater autonomy for the northern state of Punjab, their homeland.

Veteran Telugu film star storms political arena

NEW DELHI (R) — The man who upset Prime Minister Indira

Gandhi's apple cart in a crucial state election in South India is now politics but virtually a cult figure as a veteran film hero.

Nandamuri Taraka Rama Rao, known to legions of his fans as NTR, led his newly-formed Telugu Desam (Land of Telugu) party to a stunning victory Thursday over Mrs. Gandhi's well-entrenched Congress (I) in the state of Andhra Pradesh.

Tall and well-built, the 60-year-old Mr. Rama Rao stormed into the centre of Andhra's political stage last March on the strength of his formidable reputation as a Telugu-language film star often cast as a Hindu god.

Electioneering in a vintage chevrolet converted into a campaign trailer, Mr. Rama Rao matched his glamour with the charisma of Mrs. Gandhi and won.

But publicly he dismissed suggestions his cinema image was a factor in the campaign.

"I am completely black, there is no glamour... no it is the faith of the people," he said.

The NTR phenomenon, as some commentators describe it, is not unusual in a country where box-office stars often command greater following than politicians. One southern state has been ruled by matinee idol M.G. Ramachandran since 1977.

Mr. Rama Rao's major campaign promise was to stop the state's politics from being manipulated by New Delhi and restore the pride of the Telugu people by uplifting Andhra Pradesh.

Under attack from Mrs. Gandhi for voicing regional demands, Mr. Rama Rao said his party was regional only in the sense that it sought the development of Andhra Pradesh, but in all other matters it would take a broad national view.

So confident was Mr. Rama Rao of his success that he spurned alliance offers from long-standing opposition parties, but linked up with a tiny political group led by Maneka Gandhi, rebel daughter-in-law of Mrs. Gandhi.

Zimbabwean wedding banned

HARARE (R) — Zimbabwe opposition leader Joshua Nkomo said Friday the government had banned a wedding reception planned this weekend for his daughter.

Mr. Nkomo said police had issued an order under emergency regulations Thursday stopping celebration of the wedding of his 25-year-old daughter, Thandwe, to John Ndlovu, son of Zimbabwe's ambassador to Senegal.

Asked how he felt about the ban, he replied: "I am shocked. I did not expect a thing like this to be done to a wedding."

Addis Ababa may become OAU venue

NAIROBI (R) — The Organisation of African Unity (OAU), which last year made two abortive attempts to hold its 19th summit meeting in Libya, may change the venue to Ethiopia, Egyptian Assistant Foreign Minister Omran Al-Shafai said Friday.

The first attempt to hold the summit was derailed by a boycott of states protesting against the OAU membership of the Polisario guerrilla front.

The second session collapsed because of Libya's opposition to the seating of the Chad, Eritrea, and the Eritrean People's Front, which the Libyan-backed administration of Goukouni

Oueddei last June.

Mr. Al-Shafai, who is on a six-nation African tour, said after talks with Kenyan officials that there was "a trend to hold the summit in Addis Ababa," where the OAU has its headquarters.

He said Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi "no longer wants the chairmanship" which he would have taken over from Kenya had the 19th summit been held in Libya.

African leaders wanted the summit to take place before the Non-Aligned summit in New Delhi on March 1-11 so that they could attend that conference "with a united voice," Mr. Al-Shafai said.

The failure of the OAU to hold its annual summit was without precedent and has plunged Africa's sole forum for political cooperation into the worst crisis in its 19-year history.

Mr. Al-Shafai said he was confident a summit would be held — "and the sooner the better" — and he hoped it could take place before celebrations of the OAU's 20th anniversary expected to be held in Conakry, Guinea, in May.

He hinted that the troubled 19th summit and the 20th anniversary celebrations might be held together. "There is going to be some sort of celebration. Why not combine the two?" he declared.

U.S. Congress races cost over \$300 m

WASHINGTON (R) — Congressional candidates spent more than \$300 million seeking office in 1982 in the costliest U.S. congressional campaign on record, according to the Federal Election Commission.

The biggest spender was a loser, Democratic Sen. Mark Dayton of Minnesota, who poured \$5.6 million into his battle with Republican Sen. David Durenberger.

The commission said that 2,223 candidates throughout the 50 states had spent \$264 million on primary and general election campaigns by mid-October of last year.

That alone made the 1982 congressional race the most expensive on record. But the commission estimated that another \$50 million was spent from October to

November when the election was held.

The commission also reported that campaign spending by private interest groups known as political action committees also reached new heights in the 1981-82 election cycle.

It disclosed what the candidates themselves raised and spent on their campaigns, including funds from their parties, the political action committees, individual donors and their own pockets.

Second place after Mr. Dayton, a millionaire heir to a retail store fortune, went to newly-elected Republican Sen. Pete Wilson of California, who spent \$5.2 million. Third was the man he defeated, former Governor Jerry Brown with nearly \$4 million.

Four losers were among the top

10 Senate spenders. Besides Mr. Dayton and Mr. Brown, they were Democrat James Collins in Texas and California Republican Barry Goldwater Jr. son of the conservative Arizona senator, who spent \$2.6 million on a race that ended early when he failed to get the nomination.

In races for House of Representatives seats, the million-dollar spenders were Democratic loser Adam Levin in New Jersey with \$1.2 million and Democratic winner Barney Frank in Massachusetts with just over \$1 million.

The commission records do not cover sums spent by those wanting to become a state governor, but losing candidates in New York and Texas are each believed to have spent more than \$2 million.

Iran faces shortage of doctors

LONDON (R) — Iran is sending teams of specialist "headhunters" to Western Europe to recruit doctors and counter a brain drain caused by the 1979 revolution.

An advertisement in the latest issue of *Iran*, the English-language journal of the Tehran government, said the Iranian health ministry was sending teams to Britain in the first months of this year to invite doctors to work in Iran.

A spokesman for the Iranian embassy told Reuters the advertisement only applied to Muslim doctors and those from Third World countries. The embassy had received 140 applications.

At the same time Tehran is offering attractive incentives to win back Iranians working in Europe and the United States. According to Abdollah Sheibani, a member of the Majlis (parliament), 2,500 specialists left Iran after the revolution and never returned.

Iranian exiles say doctors were among those executed for alleged links with opposition groups.

According to official statistics there are more Iranian doctors practising in the United States and Western Europe than in Iran itself. In Iran, there are 15,000 doctors to tend a population of 40 million while 16,000 of their counterparts practise in the United States and 5,000 in Western Europe.

Jiang Qing, leader of the extreme leftist "gang of four" which ruled China with Mao's support during the 1966-76 Cultural Revolution, was given a suspended death sentence.

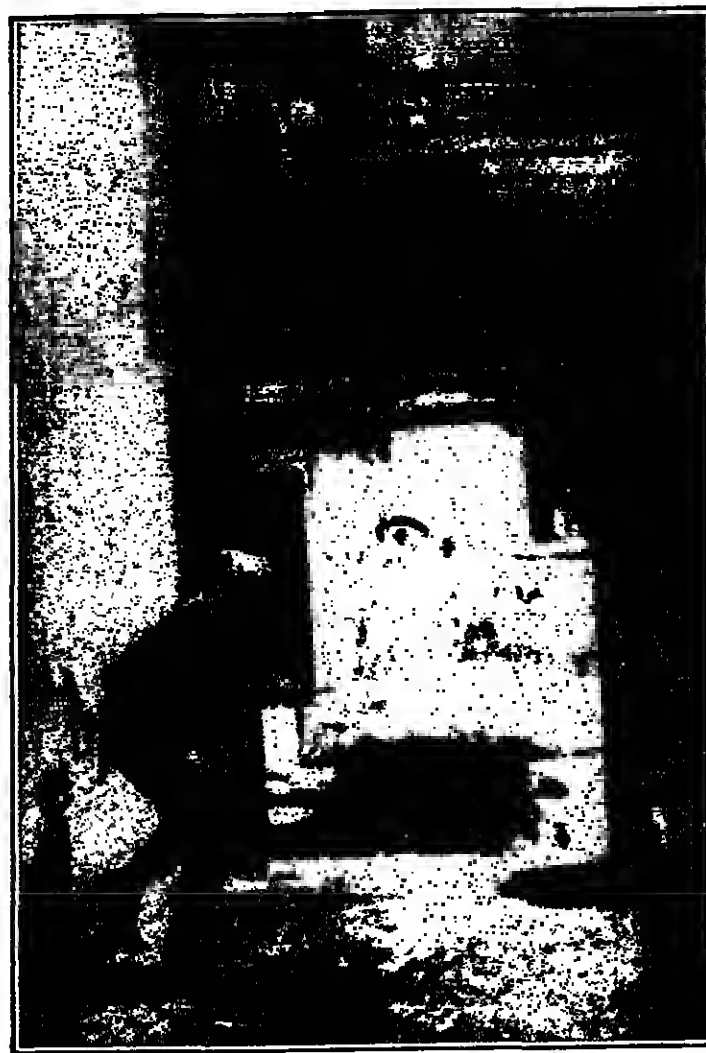
Discussing the case with foreign journalists last August, Communist Party leader Hu Yaobang said: "I think that the court will take the circumstances into account and will reduce her sentence."

Diplomats noted that although many Chinese officials have died in disgrace in the last 30 years none is known to have been executed.

Prisoners given suspended death sentences are usually spared in China if they show sincere signs of repentance. But Mr. Hu said Jiang Qing had not changed her attitude.

The official press has been silent on Jiang Qing's fate, apart from the authoritative weekly news sheet *Wenzhai Bao* (Literary Digest) which indicated last month the line the authorities might take.

It quoted a student at Peking's Qinghua University as saying: "Jiang Qing's crimes did not consist of directly killing anyone. If she is spared she will act as a teacher of a negative lesson."



A Lebanese militiaman, carrying an M16 automatic rifle, dashes through a street in the Bab El-Tabbaneh area of Tripoli Thursday, where rival militia groups have been battling for over a week. (A.P. wirephoto)

Tripoli's factional strife deeply rooted in its past

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanon's northern port of Tripoli, now torn by battles between rival Muslim factions, was better known in the past for struggles between Muslims and Christians.

The city, founded as a trading station around 800 B.C., today presents a somewhat run-down appearance, particularly in the old areas where the latest fighting has centred.

With about 600,000 inhabitants mainly Sunni Muslims, Tripoli is Lebanon's largest city after Beirut and often called the country's northern capital. Situated 88 kilometres north of Beirut, it is an important port and industrial centre.

China cracks down on pornographic tapes

PEKING (R) — China has introduced tough new regulations to ban the import of pornographic and "reactionary" videotapes as well as taped religious propaganda, the China News Service said.

Foreign tourists and all Chinese nationals could now only bring feature videotapes into the country with the special permission of the broadcasting ministry and customs department, the semi-official news agency said.

But a customs spokesman told Reuters that this rule did not apply to diplomats, journalists, businessmen and other long-term foreign residents of China.

China has been waging a campaign against pornography smuggled in from abroad. The banned material includes romantic pop songs considered totally harmless in the West as well as "hard-core" videotapes.

The China News Service said that under the new regulations "all recorded tapes containing anti-China, anti-Communist, anti-Socialist, sexual or por-

'Luck needed to find satellite if it crashes'

NEW YORK (R) — An American who accidentally discovered the Soviet nuclear satellite that came crashing back to earth in 1978 says if another one falls as predicted it could be hard to find.

Mike Mobley, who chanced upon the Soviet satellite five years ago when he was exploring Canada's northwest territories, said the most important factor in locating a downed satellite is steady chance.

The U.S. State Department has predicted that a Soviet reconnaissance satellite, Cosmos 1402, powered by about 50 kilograms of radioactive uranium, will crash somewhere on the earth's surface later this month.

The Soviet Union has disputed the forecast and said there is nothing wrong with its satellite.

Mr. Mobley said that a person searching for the satellite, should it fall, would have to be in the right place at the right time because chance — and mostly chance alone — led to the discovery last time of a downed Soviet satellite.

The 31-year-old Mr. Mobley's advice may sound simple, but it is based on experience and the U.S. government, in its official report on the incident, agrees.

When Cosmos 954 fell from the skies in late Jan. 1978, Mr. Mobley and a friend were in a dog sled on the edge of a frozen river, a long way from civilisation.

The last thing they expected to find was a Soviet satellite.

But they stumbled on something that all the sophisticated monitoring devices of the Canadian and U.S. governments were not able to pinpoint.

"It was a real question of luck. The monitoring devices had established a footprint that was hundreds of miles wide and hundreds of miles long. It could have taken days or longer to do what we did," Mr. Mobley, now a graduate student at California's Humboldt State University, said.

The State Department said Friday that there was a 70 per cent chance that Cosmos 1402 will plummet into the ocean.

Department spokesman John Hughes also noted that Soviet authorities were insisting that the satellite will not fall from its orbit.

"That would be a happy development. But our information is different," he said.

Mr. Mobley and his friend, John Mordhorst, were in the Arctic as part of a six-man team who were retracing the steps of explorer John Hornby, who starved to death in an expedition in 1927.

When they discovered Cosmos 954, Mr. Mobley remembers joking to Mordhorst that it was probably a Soviet killer satellite and that when they got back to their base camp, they would find "volcanoes and Russian nurses waiting for us."

Instead, they returned and made radio contact with officials who sternly warned them to keep away from their discovery and above all not to touch anything.

"When we told them we had touched a piece, there was this long silence and when the search parties arrived we were treated as if we had a nuclear age social disease."

Mr. Mobley recalled that he and his fellow explorers had baked bread and biscuits and brewed fresh tea for their visitors who were initially afraid even to shake hands.

"I extended my hand and some one slapped a Geiger counter in it," he said. "Eventually they found a bit of radiation on my glove."

NEWS IN BRIEF

2 sisters abducted in San Salvador

SAN SALVADOR (R) — Gunmen kidnapped two sisters said to have been making arrangements for a U.S. senator to visit El Salvador, police said. The women, Cristina and Beatriz Alcaine, both in their mid-20s, were abducted from a push neighbourhood in western San Salvador, a police spokesman said. A U.S. Unitarian churchman, John McArthur, told reporters that the sisters had been laying the groundwork for Sen. Christopher Dodd to visit El Salvador later this month.

British scientist works on date of crucifixion

LONDON (R) — A British scientist has uncovered evidence which he says may help pinpoint the date of the crucifixion of Jesus Christ to Friday, April 3, A.D. 33. Richard Stephenson, senior research fellow at Durham University in Northern England, has discovered that a partial lunar eclipse, a feature of the Bible account of the crucifixion, took place on that day.

Turkish film-maker loses citizenship

ANKARA (R) — Fugitive Turkish film-maker and actor Yilmaz Guney, convicted here of murder, was officially stripped of his citizenship Thursday, according to a decree published in the official gazette. Guney, whose film "Yol" (The Road) shared the Golden Palm award at last year's Cannes film festival, was among a group of fugitives given until Oct. 25 last year to return to the country or forfeit their citizenship.

Colombo opposition wants elections

COLOMBO (R) — Eight opposition parties in Sri Lanka have jointly demanded a general election this year, saying that 62 per cent of registered voters did not approve an extension of Parliament's term in a referendum last month. In the Dec. 22 referendum, 3.1 million people voted for and 2.6 million opposed a proposal by the government of President Junius Jayewardene to extend parliament's life for a further six years when its present term ends next August. More than eight million were eligible to vote. The opposition parties, led by the Sri Lanka Freedom Party of former Prime Minister Sirima Bandaranaike, accused in a statement issued Thursday the government of abusing its powers and intimidation to secure endorsement for the proposal.

Madrid unsympathetic to ex-Republicans

MADRID (R) — The Spanish Supreme Court has turned down an appeal for pensions and other rights by career officers who fought for the defeated Republican side in the 1936-39 Civil War. Lawyers representing the 5,000 men affected by the ruling said the verdict dashed hopes that their case would receive sympathetic treatment under a Socialist government. Luis Roldan Rodriguez, one of the lawyers, said the case was now being referred to the higher constitutional court but he added that he was not optimistic.

Ismat Sadat's assets estimated at \$148m

CAIRO (R) — An Egyptian prosecutor has estimated the family assets of Ismat Sadat, brother of the late President Anwar Sadat who is on trial for fraud, at 124 million Egyptian pounds (\$148 million), the official Middle East agency said. The prosecutor, Abdel-Kader Ahmed Ali, said the assets included real estate, cash and other property held by Mr. Sadat and 36 members of his family. The agency quoted Mr. Ali as saying cash held by Mr. Sadat, his two wives, children, grandchildren and sons-in-law was estimated at about 1.9 million pounds (about \$2.3 million) real estate and other properties at about 72 million pounds (about \$86.4 million). The rest was taken up by businesses owned by the Sadat family.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN

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North-South vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH
 ♠ Q9
 ♥ A652
 ♦ AQJ32
 ♣ Q6

WEST **EAST**
 ♠ K53 ♠ 7642
 ♥ K7 ♥ 10983
 ♦ 875 ♦ 94
 ♣ J872 ♣ 1093

SOUTH
 ♠ AJ10
 ♥ QJ4
 ♦ K106
 ♣ AK54

The bidding:
 North East South West
 1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
 2 ♥ Pass 6 NT Pass
 Pass Pass
 Opening lead: Eight of ♠.

Renowned bridge clubs, such as New York's Cavenish Club, earn their reputation because of the famous players who are, or have been, members. But playing with the stars can have beneficial effects on the skill of the membership as well. Watch a former president of the club, Lee Koppel, at work during a rubber bridge game.

North-South were using a five-card major system, so North's bid of two hearts was not necessarily a true reverse. Koppel's bid of six no trump is typical of the dash that earned him the rank of major in the Israeli army before he settled in New York.

...won the diamond

Handwritten signature and notes at the bottom of the page.